

ALLEGHENY  
GENERAL HOSPITAL

WEST PENN ALLEGHENY HEALTH SYSTEM

320 EAST NORTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH, PA 15212-4771

412-359-3131

March 21, 2003

Evelyn S. Berwick, MD  
1524 Tretter Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15227

Dear Dr. Berwick,

This letter is to reiterate and to confirm our discussion of today.

After thoughtful consideration, the Department of Medicine has cause to question your quality of patient care and compliance with Hospital procedure. As a result of this, and as provided in the bylaws of the Medical Staff (Article VII, Section 3), Procedure for Actions Involving Medical Staff Members or Holders of Clinical Privileges, a request for an evaluation of your practice at Allegheny General Hospital has been made to the Executive Committee of the Medical Staff. This request for an evaluation is based on the patient care episode we discussed initially on the evening of March 20, 2003. As you know, the insurer has requested peer review and additional physician oversight in this patient's care. Peer review at AGH on March 21, 2003, supported the concerns of the insurer that the care rendered during this hospitalization did not meet the standard of care. Other circumstances regarding your management of AGH inpatients while you were hospitalized at a different hospital and your failure to advise a patient of a cancer diagnosis contributed to the decision to refer this matter to the Executive Committee of the Medical Staff.

As per our discussion of March 21, 2003, you have voluntarily agreed to transfer the care of the patient involved in this matter to the AGH Hospitalist service. In addition, you voluntarily agreed to admit all future patients to this service until the evaluation process is concluded. We discussed the operation of the service with which you had some familiarity. All patients will be returned to your care following hospital discharge.

We discussed and you understood that information in addition to this case may be brought to the committee in the course of the evaluation.

Yours truly,

*Sharon C. Kiely, MD*

Sharon C. Kiely, MD, MPM  
Vice Chair, Department of Medicine

cc: Richard Shannon, MD  
Connie Cibrone  
Jerry Fedele  
Michael White, MD