



Audit Department

500 S Grand Central Pkwy Ste 5006 • PO Box 551120 • Las Vegas NV 89155-1120
(702) 455-3269 • Fax (702) 455-3893

Angela M. Darragh, CPA, CFE, CISA, Director

December 5, 2014

Mr. Don Burnette
Clark County Manager
500 South Grand Central Parkway, 6th Floor
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106

Dear Mr. Burnette:

We recently performed a follow-up to the Major Joint Replacement Medical Necessity audit dated December 20, 2013. Our objective was to determine whether corrective actions were implemented to address findings included in the original audit.

To accomplish our objectives we examined five patient accounts from May to June of 2014. We verified that medical necessity documentation was present to include the following: pain at the joint, level of pain, increased pain with weight bearing, pain that interferes with ADL's (Activities of Daily Living), pain with ROM (Range of Motion), and limited ROM. We also looked for documentation that included radiological findings to indicate two significant findings, a trial of medication or contraindication of medication due to patient's inability to tolerate, documentation of all conservative non-surgical treatment, including exercise/therapy, anti-inflammatory medications, and/or steroid injections. Finally, we looked for documentation of clinical judgment as to why there was a deviation from the stepped-care approach or why the patient was not able to tolerate the treatment documented by the surgeon. We completed our fieldwork on October 27, 2014.

University Medical Center of Southern Nevada Surgical Services took adequate corrective action on all findings reported in the original audit. Surgical Services incorporated a checklist to verify that medical necessity is obtained prior to any major joint replacement being completed. We believe the medical necessity checklist effectively addressed each finding in the original audit report. All patient records tested included sufficient medical necessity documentation.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

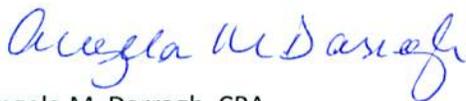
We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

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The auditor's role in follow-up engagements is to compile corrective actions taken from effected Department/Division management, assess whether these responses are adequate or not adequate to correct reported deficiencies, and relay to management. It is the Department/Division management's responsibility to decide if any appropriate action should be taken in response to reported audit findings. It is also their responsibility to assume the risk by not correcting a reported condition because of cost or other consideration.

We appreciate the cooperation and assistance provided by the Surgical Services staff during the course of this audit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Angela M. Darragh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'A'.

Angela M. Darragh, CPA
Audit Director