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Merry Holliday- Hanson, PhD, Manager
Administrative Data Program
Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
400 R Street, Room 250
Sacramento, CA. 95811

Dear Dr. Holliday-Hanson,

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to comment on the Inpatient Hospital Mortality Data for 2010 and 2011 soon to be publicly released by your department. Barton Memorial Hospital is a rural hospital. Because of our low census, we have only one to two cases of individual patients over a very small denominator (less than 30 cases) in many of the mortality categories. Every life is precious and just one loss can affect a loved one. Our philosophy is to treat each patient as if they were one of our family members. Barton Memorial Hospital takes each case as a learning opportunity to examine the systems, processes and care decisions and identify future opportunities for improvement to become a better organization today. Patient care quality and safety is our number one priority and by learning, we can delivery consistently exceptional care for our patients. We support the public reporting of clinical quality data and post our own quality data, including 2012 data, on our website www.bartonhealth.org/reportcard.

Sincerely yours,

John G. Williams
Chief Executive Officer
Barton Memorial Hospital

Clinton D. Purvance, MD
Chief Medical Officer
Barton Memorial Hospital

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