

May 18, 2105

Office of Governor Rick Scott
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St
Tallahassee, FL 32399-001

Dear Office of Governor Rick Scott:

Thank you for your support of Florida's Low Income Pool (LIP) program and efforts to renew the LIP waiver. The supplemental funding that Lee Memorial Health System receives through the LIP program is vital to providing care to our large volumes of Medicaid patients. We fully support the Florida LIP redesign model submitted to the US Department of Health & Human Services.

Lee Memorial Health System's hospitals have received your request for approximately 120 data elements related the nine year time period of 2006 -2013 for each of our hospital facilities. Since we received this request on May 13, 2015, our staff has spent many hours doing our very best to compile this data by today's deadline. We are submitting to the website today the hospital profile forms for Lee Memorial Hospital (which includes Health Park Medical Center), Gulf Coast Medical Center and Cape Coral Hospital. Most of our data from 2006-2008 has been archived so we respectfully ask that you have staff obtain the data for these years from the data that is readily available pursuant to Florida hospital data reporting laws and rules.

Please note that our hospital AHCA reports provide an incomplete picture of the System financial performance. We are submitting to you our operating margin in the hospital profile request for each hospital adjusted to reflect an allocation of system costs such as physician services including emergency call coverage and other physician service subsidies vital to our community, clinics providing care for uninsured and underinsured, home health and skilled nursing facility services provided to help uninsured and underinsured patients be discharged from hospital facilities. These services are vital to the system and for our community and region which is among the most uninsured and underinsured in Florida and should be reflected when considering overall hospital profitability. We are unable to provide at this time the Low Income Pool funding received and IGTs paid. The LIP funds received are paid both in quarterly payments in lump sum and are included in individual Medicaid patient's claims payments. While the quarterly payments are easily quantifiable the specific payments to each claim are more difficult to compile. The state of Florida's records of AHCA IGT and LIP funding through both quarterly payments and claims payments should provide the most accurate data for your review.

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We found that many of the requested data fields had descriptions that were not clear enough for us to interpret. Rather than speculate and provide inaccurate answers we respectfully ask for clarification on those items and will be happy to provide additional information at that time if needed.

The section in the hospital profile form that request most common diagnoses and procedures for inpatient and outpatient service also requested pricing information. The form did not provide additional cells to input pricing data and therefore we only included the procedure and diagnosis description. Pricing data is readily available on Florida Health Finder and at leememorial.org.

On behalf of Lee Memorial Health System, we look forward to working with you and the Commission.

Sincerely,



Ben Spence
Chief Financial Officer
Lee Memorial Health System

Enclosure

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