

Appendix #12

RANCHO LOS AMIGOS MEDICAL CENTER

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DIRECTOR OF NURSING

February 22, 1991

David Cundiff, M.D.
General Internal Medicine
LAC/USC Medical Center
1200 N. State St., GH8850
Los Angeles, CA 90033

Dear Dr. Cundiff:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your proposal on establishing a PCU unit. I totally agree that hospitals are designed to help get people better, to do sophisticated tests, and to treat diseases aggressively. We have the same type of problem at Rancho, an acute rehabilitation facility, regarding patients with severe catastrophic diseases who are not acute rehabilitation candidates. They require some form of domicillary care which we do not provide, but also require more care than the average nursing home is prepared to render. I am working to help establish specialized nursing homes, reimbursed at an appropriate rate, for ventilatory dependent patients. Based upon my experience I would establish the PCU unit in a nursing home rather than in an acute facility.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Waters, M.D.
Medical Director

RLW/cd