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DIVISION OF QUALITY ASSURANCE

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SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE & SAFETY
EXHIBIT NO. 34
DATE: 2-18-05
BILL NO. SB 440

2/17/05

TO: Members of the Senate Public Health, Welfare, and Safety Committee

FROM: Mary E. Dalton, Administrator
Quality Assurance Division

RE: Information Related to Senate Bill 440 – Specialty Hospitals

Senator Weinberg asked for a comparison of the percentage of Medicare and Medicaid patients in Great Falls and Kalispell between the "specialty" hospitals and the "regular" hospitals. This information is noted below. Health Center Northwest and Kalispell Regional are in Kalispell. Central Montana Surgical and Benefis are in Great Falls. Overall, the statewide average in-patient percentage for Medicaid is 13.8%.

Medicaid/Medicare Comparison

Hospital	FYE	Total Charges	Medicare Charges	Medicare Percent	Medicaid Charges	Medicaid Percent
Health Center Northwest	03/31/04	11,028,161	1,753,374	15.90%	516,250	4.68%
Central Montana Surgical	12/31/03	8,092,278	1,506,296	18.61%	1,117,927	13.81%
Kalispell Regional Medical	03/31/04	155,571,242	55,661,848	35.78%	14,285,016	9.18%
Benefis	12/31/03	230,935,704	87,138,102	37.73%	28,574,570	12.37%

*This information was taken from the "as-filed" cost report for all hospitals. These are the most current cost reports.

In addition, Senator Weinberg asked a question about whether "regular" hospitals are required to have emergency room services. I told you that they were not. I thought you might be interested in what a

hospital is required to provide and what they don't have to provide. That information is found below:

> A "hospital" is a facility that is operated under the supervision of licensed physicians; has an organized medical staff that is on call and available within 20 minutes, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; and provides 24-hour nursing care by licensed registered nurses.
>
> A hospital is required to provide: diagnostics, i.e.: laboratory and x-ray; pharmacy; dietary; laundry; housekeeping; and physical plant services.
>
> A hospital is not required to provide the following elective services: emergency room; surgical, obstetrical, psychiatric, occupational therapy, respiratory therapy, physical therapy, or speech therapy services.

I hope this is helpful. Please feel free to contact me at 444-5401 or mdalton@mt.gov if you have any further questions.

cc: Chuck Hunter
Roy Kemp

Med/leg/SB440 specialty hospital