



University of Colorado Denver

Division of Health Care Policy and Research

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June 24, 2010

Ivy Kwong  
Asian Network Pacific Home Care, Inc.  
212 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 205  
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear Ms. Kwong:

The University of Colorado Denver (Division of Health Care Policy and Research) has been contracted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to conduct evaluation activities for the Home Health Pay for Performance (HHP4P) Demonstration. As part of the evaluation, the project team gathered focus group data from a select group of home health agencies (HHAs) in 2009 to identify the strategies and techniques used by these HHAs to improve their clinical care practices. We want to congratulate you on your outstanding performance during Year 1 of the Demonstration project and invite you to participate in our 2010 focus group activities.

Based on your outstanding performance—achieving recognition for high performance in seven outcomes (one of three HHAs in the country)—your agency has been selected as a potential site visit host. If you agree to participate in the focus group site visit, Dr. Nuccio and/or Ms. Richard will conduct the two focus group discussions at your site. Our evaluation project will pay for all their costs for transportation and lodging. We would like to coordinate our visits to high performing home health agencies in your area between July 19, 2010 – August 13, 2010. The two attached documents provide a draft version of the questions we would ask representatives from your management and clinical teams. Because we use a structured protocol, we believe the overall length of the site visit itself will be approximately three (3) hours, and no protected health information (PHI) will be gathered during the visit. Agency-specific information gathered during the site visit will be held in confidence and only summary information will be presented in project evaluation reports.

If you are interested in participating, please provide a response either by phone or email by July 9, 2010 with the dates you could accommodate a site visit. Our Year 1 focus group sites found the activity extremely valuable and minimally intrusive. If you believe that your agency can host a site visit, please contact Eugene Nuccio, PhD at (303)724-2479 or [eugene.nuccio@ucdenver.edu](mailto:eugene.nuccio@ucdenver.edu) or Ms. Angela Richard at (303) 724-2442 or [angela.richard@ucdenver.edu](mailto:angela.richard@ucdenver.edu).

Regards,

David F. Hittle, PhD  
Principal Investigator

Eugene Nuccio, PhD  
Project Manager

Angela Richard, M.S., R.N.  
Project Team