

**From:** Hensarling, Troy [mailto:thensarling@mcbrideclinic.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2006 3:31 PM  
**To:** Romano, Donald H. (CMS/CMM)  
**Subject:** FW: Dr Howard CMS Itr (2)

Donald Romano  
CMS  
c/o Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Mr. Romano,

In response to your efforts to collect information about specialty hospitals, I would like to provide our information about McBride Clinic. We are an Orthopedic Hospital. We do outpatient procedures as part of our delivery of care. Our purpose is not for outpatients to be done at inpatient facilities. McBride Clinic was established in 1919. McBride Clinic has operated an orthopedic hospital since 1926. The Hospital for the care of McBride Clinic Orthopedic and Arthritis patients, therefore, is an integral part of our care delivery and is not a boutique facility.

With demographics and increased number of aging in the population, with a healthier population, longer life span, and simply a more active population, we found a need for an expanded hospital facility to serve those patients. Our focus is on musculoskeletal care. We have an 80 bed facility. There is a 24 hour, 7 day a week emergency room. We provide continuity of care for musculoskeletal and rheumatologic disease from diagnosis through treatment and rehabilitation. At least 60% of our patient numbers are Medicare patients. At least 75% of our cases are admitted inpatients. We pay taxes. Our payor mix is constant. We are providing care for patients others have chosen not to serve. You asked for suggestions about charity care. A definition of charity care must include cases that are done at a loss due to reimbursement structure. We would provide CMS specific examples at the proper time. Charity care is provided to more than just the indigent.

McBride Clinic, Inc. is committed to continuing delivery of musculoskeletal, arthritis, and orthopedic care to the entirety of the population without prejudice. Please consider our history and our mission. We are a unique entity. **We ask that you please not paint us or any other similar facility with a broad stroke of a brush that does not represent our facility, and that would endanger the care and delivery of care to our patients.**

In reference to your offer to include reviewing competing for-profit and not-for-profit hospitals, we agree that all facilities, including their management, should be evaluated in a critical, non-discriminatory fashion.

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