

10 February 2009

Dr. Antonio Pinheiro  
Chief Executive Officer  
Centro Hospitalar do Alto Ave, EPE – Unidade de Guimarães  
Rua dos Cutileiros S/N  
Creixomil, Guimaes 4810-055  
Portugal

Dear Dr. Antonio Pinheiro:

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Joint Commission International Accreditation has reviewed the Initial Hospital Accreditation Survey Findings for Centro Hospitalar do Alto Ave, EPE – Unidade de Guimarães. It is with great pleasure that I inform you of the decision to grant ACCREDITATION to the Centro Hospitalar do Alto Ave, EPE – Unidade de Guimarães. Congratulations to you, and all the other leaders and staff of Centro Hospitalar do Alto Ave, EPE – Unidade de Guimarães in achieving this recognition of your commitment to provide quality care on an ongoing basis.

The Joint Commission International Accreditation Hospital Standards are intended to stimulate continuous, systematic and organization-wide improvement in daily performance and in the outcomes of patient care. Joint Commission International will continue to monitor Centro Hospitalar do Alto Ave, EPE – Unidade de Guimarães for compliance with all of the JCI hospital standards on an ongoing basis throughout the three year accreditation cycle.

It is our expectation that, all of the issues identified in the 2008 survey report will have been satisfactorily resolved and full compliance with each identified standard will be demonstrated at the time of your triennial accreditation survey. Therefore, Centro Hospitalar do Alto Ave, EPE – Unidade de Guimarães is encouraged to immediately place organization-wide focus on each of the standards and International Patient Safety Goals with measurable elements scored as “Partially Met” and “Not Met” and to implement the action(s) necessary to achieve full compliance.



The citizens of Portugal should be proud that Centro Hospitalar do Alto Ave, EPE – Unidade de Guimarães is focusing on this most challenging goal – to continuously raise quality to higher levels.

Once again congratulations on this significant achievement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann K. Jacobson".

Ann K. Jacobson  
Executive Director  
International Accreditation  
Joint Commission International

CC: Mr. Jorge Pontes, Survey Coordinator