The University of Colorado Hospital (UCH) is committed to serve, within financial limitations and available resources, the State’s medically uninsured and underserved populations primarily through participation in the Colorado Indigent Care Program (CICP). As the State’s second largest “safety-net” provider, UCH serves CICP, Medicaid, and other medically underserved patients accessing the hospital from all of Colorado’s 64 counties.

Most medically underserved patients who receive care at UCH are referred for acute specialty care – complex cases that cannot be generally treated in other clinical care facilities – such as cardiac, cancer, neurological, high-risk maternal, and those with other life-threatening illnesses or injuries such as emergency burn, (such conditions often times necessitating long-term treatment and recovery).

In FY13, UCH provided $371 million (gross charges) in care to the State’s medically underserved - this is an 11% increase from FY12. This includes CICP, all additional indigent/charity care, and bad debt write-offs.

In FY13, UCH admitted 3,058 patients qualified under CICP, for a total of 15,081 total inpatient days. During that same period UCH also saw a total of 51,275 CICP outpatient visits.

Funds annually received by UCH for CICP are derived via the “Hospital Provider Fee” (HB09-1293). These are federal funds that include both Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) funds and federal matching funds from UCH’s portion of the provider fee. In FY13 these federal funds to UCH totaled a net $36.1 million. UCH receives no State General Fund dollars.

Including all indigent care related write-off charges, and UCH’s “self-pay discount program” (mostly indigent – not CICP qualified patients), the total net amount of indigent/charity care and bad debt charges written off by UCH in FY13 was over $329 million - a 14% increase from FY12. When including charity care write-offs from University Physicians, Inc., our faculty practice administrator, the total is more than $404 million.

For further information or questions please contact Jeff Thompson, Director of Government & Corporate Relations – 720-848-7829.