EXHIBIT 5.9  Inpatient Discharges for MH and SA Conditions by Payer

Hospital stays with MH and SA diagnoses were more commonly uninsured or insured by Medicaid than were hospital stays overall.

- Medicaid was the primary insurer for 18 percent of all community hospital discharges in 2008. Medicaid was the primary payer for 21 percent of discharges with an alcohol-related diagnosis, a share similar to all hospitalizations, but for 31 percent of discharges with a drug-related diagnosis and 28 percent of discharges with a MH diagnosis.

- Five percent of all hospital stays were uninsured. Almost one-quarter of stays for alcohol-related diagnoses, one-fifth for drug-related diagnoses, and one-tenth for MH diagnoses were uninsured.

- Medicare was the primary payer for 37 percent of all hospital stays, but paid for smaller shares of MH and SA stays. Medicare paid for 29 percent of stays with a MH diagnosis, 16 percent with an alcohol-related diagnosis, and 19 percent with a drug-related diagnosis.

- Private insurance was billed for 35 percent of all hospital stays and for almost an equivalent share of alcohol-related stays (33 percent). Private insurance was the primary payer for smaller shares of MH and drug-related stays—30 percent of discharges with a MH diagnosis and 26 percent with a drug-related diagnosis.