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PROVINCE HEALTHCARE CO Form 425 August 20, 2004

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Filed by LifePoint Hospitals, Inc.

pursuant to Rule 425

under the Securities Act of 1933

and deemed filed pursuant to

Rule 14a-12 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Subject Company: Province Healthcare Company

(Commission File No.: 001-31320)

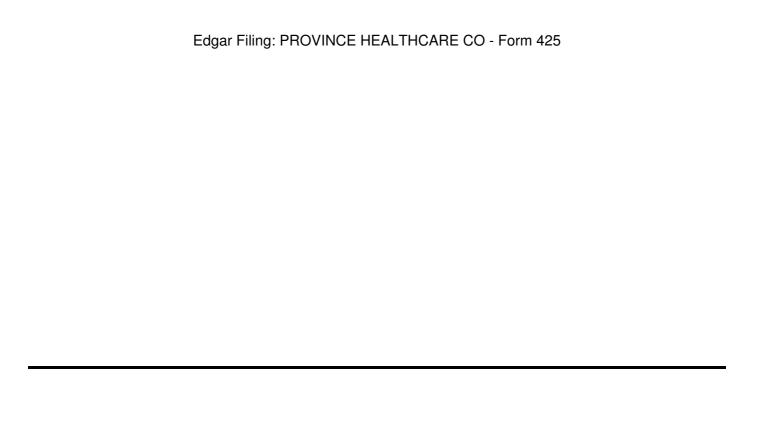
Subject Company: LifePoint Hospitals, Inc.

(Commission File No.: 000-29818)

This filing relates to a planned acquisition of Province Healthcare Company (Province Healthcare) and LifePoint Hospitals, Inc. (LifePoint Hospitals) pursuant to the terms of an Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of August 15, 2004 (the Merger Agreement), by and among LifePoint Hospitals, Lakers Holding Corp., Lakers Acquisition Corp., Pacers Acquisition Corp. and Province Healthcare. The Merger Agreement has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an exhibit to the Report on Form 8-K filed by LifePoint Hospitals on August 16, 2004.

LifePoint Hospitals made the following presentation available on its website (www.lifepointhospital.com). The presentation includes non-GAAP financial measures, which are qualified by GAAP reconciliation information that is included in the presentation and will also be made available on LifePoint Hospitals website.

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