



March 3, 2023

**VIA E-MAIL**

Hilary Cassell  
Regional Heart & Vascular Center Director  
University of Maryland Shore Regional Health  
219 South Washington Street  
Easton, MD 21601

Dear Ms. Cassell,

Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) staff has reviewed the application for the University of Maryland Shore Medical Center at Easton (UM SMC-E) Certificate of Conformance for primary and elective percutaneous coronary intervention services. The submission of additional information is required before UM SMC-E's application may be deemed complete. Please address the following questions below:

1. For Question 11 on the application, please provide the current budget numbers for each line on Form B. Many of the assumptions reference the current expenses, and it would be helpful to have the starting numbers for projections provided. In addition, please provide the actual FY 2022 numbers for each line on Form B.
2. For Question 29b, the response of the hospital indicates that case review meetings and multi-disciplinary meetings involve the same people and occur simultaneously. Previously, MHCC staff understood these two groups to be distinct. Please clarify and provide updated information on meeting dates and attendees, if applicable.
3. For Question 30b, an external review report for the period from July to December 2020 was not included, and the information included in the CY 2021 report appears to include only the review of a six-month period. Please provide the missing documents.
4. For Question 31b, UM SMC-E refers to the external review by MACPAQ to demonstrate compliance with the requirement to evaluate the individual performance of interventionalists. However, the applicable standard requires that the higher of ten cases or ten percent of cases be reviewed each year, whether through an annual, semiannual, or quarterly review of cases. This requirement may

be met through internal review, external review, or a combination of internal and external review. Based on MHCC staff's analysis of the CathPCI data, in CY 2021, a total of ten cases should be reviewed annually for Dr. Etherton, 11 cases for Dr. Pena-Sing, and ten cases for Dr. Sardi. Complete information on the number of cases reviewed per interventionalist for the external review of cases performed in CY 2021 is missing. In addition, the external review reports submitted for 2020 and 2021 do not cover the full year.

5. For Question 32a, in Form C, the total sum of the PCI volume reported for the period ending December CY 2021, is 60 cases less than the number of cases included in the ACC CathPCI registry for UM SMC-E. Please explain this discrepancy. The difference appears to be driven by cases attributed to Dr. Sardi and Dr. Pena-Sing. MHCC staff's count of total PCI cases for Dr. Etherton was 85, only slightly higher than reported in Form C (83) for CY 2021.

Please provide a response to these questions by March 24, 2023. Also, please plan to submit any additional external review reports that are completed prior to action on the Certificate of Conformance application. For information regarded as confidential and sensitive, please submit the information only through a secure electronic method. If you have questions about this request, please contact me via email at [eileen.fleck@maryland.gov](mailto:eileen.fleck@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,



Eileen Fleck  
Chief, Acute Care Policy & Planning

cc: Andrew L. Solberg, A.L.S. Healthcare Consultant Services  
Thomas C. Dame, Esquire, Gallagher Evelius & Jones, LLP  
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