



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

Office of Health Care Quality
7120 Samuel Morse Drive, Second Floor
Columbia, MD 21046-3422

April 9, 2020

Ben Steffen, Executive Director
Maryland Health Care Commission
4160 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Dear Mr. Steffen,

As you are aware, on March 5, 2020, Governor Hogan issued a proclamation that a state of emergency and a catastrophic health emergency exists in Maryland, due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Based on the increased need for acute general hospital beds due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Office of Health Care Quality is requesting that the Maryland Health Care Commission apply its authority under COMAR 10.24.01.20 to grant an emergency certificate of need to hospitals that have agreed to the installation and operation of field hospital inpatient Units to be constructed on the hospital grounds and that are listed on a spreadsheet maintained by the Department of General Services in coordination with the Maryland Emergency Management Agency.

Field hospital inpatient units will be located on each hospital's campus and can serve a varying number of patients depending on the size of the field hospital. The units will be appropriately equipped with utilities and emergency power and will be constructed over the next few weeks.

The Office of Health Care Quality recommends that these certificates of need should be approved on an emergency basis, field hospital inpatient units can be provisionally licensed as part of the licensure of each hospital for the term of the state of emergency.

Please contact me if you have any questions at (410)402-8116 or (443)681-0278.

Sincerely,

Renee B. Webster

Renee B. Webster, Deputy Director, Federal Programs