

# MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION

## Emergency Certificate of Need

**TO:** Lyle E. Sheldon, FACHE  
President/CEO  
520 Upper Chesapeake Drive, Suite 405  
Bel Air, Maryland 21014

April 30, 2020  
Date

**RE:** UM Harford Memorial Hospital  
Establishment of 20 Inpatient Beds

EM-H20-12-033  
Docket No.

### **DESCRIPTION OF EMERGENCY PROJECT**

This Emergency Certificate of Need authorizes University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health System (UM UCHS) Harford Memorial Hospital (UM Harford Memorial Hospital) to establish additional temporary inpatient bed capacity consisting of 20 medical/surgical/gynecological/addictions beds with 16 beds located in two conference rooms and four beds located in the Tower Rehab Area at UM Harford Memorial Hospital, 501 South Union Avenue, Havre de Grace (Harford County) (the Site). UM UCHS states that the project has nominal costs related to bed rental expenses and that physical space changes including increased equipment “will begin as soon as appropriate.”

### **ORDER**

Upon consideration of the request of UM Harford Memorial Hospital, suitably detailed information provided by the Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) and others, and consultation with the Chairman of the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC), Ben Steffen, MHCC Executive Director, determined that the lack of sufficient inpatient bed capacity at Maryland general hospitals resulting from COVID-19 presents a hazard to patients and/or employees, as provided in COMAR 10.24.01.20A.

Therefore, it is, on April 30, 2020, ordered by the Executive Director that an Emergency Certificate of Need issue for the project. It is further ordered that the requirement in COMAR 10.24.01.20C that UM Harford Memorial Hospital file an application for Certificate of Need for the inpatient beds established in this Emergency Certificate of Need is suspended by the Executive Director pursuant to COMAR 10.24.01.10A(2) until at least 30 days after the termination of the state of emergency declared by Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. on March 5, 2020.

### **Approvals by Maryland Department of Health**

This Emergency Certificate of Need does not constitute a license or replace any approvals for other aspects of the project that are required by the OHCQ or other divisions of the Maryland Department of Health to operate inpatient bed capacity at the Site.

**Further Action**

This Emergency Certificate of Need will be considered for confirmation by the Maryland Health Care Commission at its next scheduled meeting on May 21, 2020 or at an earlier meeting of which UM Harford Memorial Hospital is notified. This Emergency Certificate of Need initially remains in effect for a maximum of 165 days, as provided in COMAR 10.24.01.20C, or until 30 days after the termination of the state of emergency declared by Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. on March 5, 2020. The Emergency CON may be extended beyond that date for good cause shown.

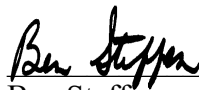
**CONDITION OF EMERGENCY CERTIFICATE OF NEED**

Because it is important that the Maryland Health Care Commission and the Office of Health Care Quality know when the inpatient beds approved in this Emergency Certificate of Need are available for patients, it is further

**ORDERED** that **UM Harford Memorial Hospital shall advise MHCC staff and OHCQ staff when the inpatient beds become operational at the Site, disclosing: (1) the number of beds in this Emergency CON that become available for patients; and (2) the date the beds become available.** The hospital shall: notify MHCC staff by sending an email with this information to [ruby.potter@maryland.gov](mailto:ruby.potter@maryland.gov); and notify OHCQ staff of this temporary increase in its licensed bed capacity by completing OHCQ's Application for Temporary Adjustment of Hospital Beds, which is located at:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/c7e6598943c84dd2ba9e39859a9f3383>.

**MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION**



Ben Steffen  
Executive Director

cc: Robert R. Neall, Secretary of Health  
Patricia T. Nay, M.D., Executive Director, Office of Health Care Quality  
Renee Webster, Deputy Director, Federal Programs, Office of Health Care Quality  
Katie Wunderlich, Executive Director, HSCRC  
Russell Moy, M.D., Health Officer, Harford County