



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

April 14, 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 Baltimore Convention Center Alternate Care Site .

The Maryland Department of Health and MEMA have requested temporary licensure of the Baltimore Convention Center Alternate Care Site as an acute general hospital. The facility will be operated by the Maryland Department of Health with clinical management provided by the staff of The Johns Hopkins Hospital and the University of Maryland Medical Center. The facility will provide 250 inpatient beds serving COVID-19 positive patients who no longer require intensive care or higher levels of acuity care. These beds are located in cubicles located at the Baltimore Convention Center at 1 West Pratt Street in Baltimore. Physician services will be provided by The Johns Hopkins Hospital. Other clinical services are being provided by the University of Maryland Medical Center. These beds will be available for operation by April 18, 2020. .

The Office of Health Care Quality recommends this certificate of need should be approved on an emergency basis, and based on the information provided by the Maryland Department of Health, the Baltimore Convention Center Alternate Care Site can be temporarily licensed as a 250 bed acute general hospital.

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