



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 18, 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 Northwest Hospital Center.

Northwest Hospital Center has requested approval and licensure for 34 inpatient MSGA beds for low acuity patients to be located in their Wound Care Center, their Orthopedic offices and in the gyms. These rooms will not be outfitted with headwalls and gases. These beds will be available for operation in within 7 days of approval. These beds are included in the 105 beds being requested. The hospital should request 71 beds under the Application for Temporary Adjustment of Hospital Beds.

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 hospital, these 52 beds can be provisionally licensed as part of Northwest Hospital Center.

Sincerely,

Renee B. Webster

Renee B. Webster, Deputy Director, Federal Programs