



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

March 27, 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 Peninsula Regional Medical Center.

Peninsula Regional Medical Center has requested approval and licensure for a 48-bed intensive care unit that would be constructed in the existing conference room space located within the hospital. The unit, which the hospital is identifying as the Delmarva/Eastern Shore Regional Critical Care /Pandemic Unit, would be equipped to provide intensive care services on a regional basis. At the conclusion of the emergency, the unit can be stepped down, but the essential utilities put in place by the renovations would remain intact for future reactivation. The hospital would also like to renovate a vacated pediatric unit, currently used for ED overflow, into an 8-bed isolation unit. Construction can begin upon approval, and the anticipated occupancy date is May 1, 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 hospital, these beds can be provisionally licensed as part of Peninsula Regional Medical Center.

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

Sincerely,

Renee B. Webster, Deputy Director, Federal Programs