

MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION

Emergency Certificate of Need

TO: Neil Meltzer, President
LifeBridge Health, Inc.
2401 W. Belvedere Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

April 30, 2020
Date

RE: Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, Inc.
Establishment of Two Inpatient Beds

EM-H20-24-035
Docket No.

DESCRIPTION OF EMERGENCY PROJECT

This Emergency Certificate of Need authorizes LifeBridge Health, Inc and Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, Inc. (Sinai Hospital) to establish additional inpatient bed capacity consisting of two medical/surgical/gynecological/addictions beds¹ in space without headwalls or gases at Sinai Hospital, 2401 West Belvedere Avenue, Baltimore (Baltimore City), Maryland (the Site). Sinai Hospital estimates that the beds can be operational within 24 hours.

ORDER

Upon consideration of the request of Sinai 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 Sinai 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.

¹ Sinai Hospital will also add 219 additional temporary beds, of which 134 can provide ICU level of care (including 11 for pediatric ICU patients), will convert certain existing inpatient beds to negative pressure rooms for COVID-19 patients, and obtain ventilator and respiratory/airway management equipment at an estimated cost of \$713,456. The 219 beds will be or have been added through a request to OHCQ for a temporary increase in licensed bed capacity.

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

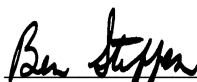
This Emergency Certificate of Need will be considered for confirmation by the Maryland Health Care Commission at its next scheduled meeting on May 21, 2020 or at an earlier date of which the hospital is notified. This Emergency Certificate of Need initially remains in effect for a maximum of 165 days, 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 Sinai 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; 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
Renee Webster, Deputy Director, Federal Programs, Office of Health Care Quality
Katie Wunderlich, Executive Director, HSCRC
Letitia Dzirasa, M.D., Health Officer, Baltimore City
Teresa Fletcher, AVP, Business Development, LifeBridge Health Partners