



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

November 25, 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 an initial 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 Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, Inc. (Sinai Hospital).

Sinai Hospital has requested approval and licensure for 24 swing beds to accommodate either lower acuity inpatients or subacute patients awaiting placement in comprehensive care facilities. These beds expected to be available for operation within one week of issuance of an Emergency Certificate of Need. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has issued an approval permitting Sinai Hospital to operate the swing 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 beds can be provisionally licensed as part of Sinai 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