



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

September 12, 2007

Felicia DeDominicis
Vice President, Legal Affairs
Hospital for Special Care
2150 Corbin Avenue
New Britain, CT 06053

Re: Hospital for Special Care
CON Determination Report 07-31028-DTR
Proposal to Create Chronic Neuromuscular Disease Clinic

Dear Ms. DeDominicis:

On August 27, 2007, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received your Certificate of Need ("CON") Determination Form 2020 concerning the proposal of the Hospital for Special Care to create a chronic neuromuscular disease clinic at its existing facility at a proposed capital expenditure of \$52,200. Upon review of the information contained in Form 2020, OHCA finds the following:

1. Hospital for Special Care ("Hospital") is a private, not-for-profit, 228-bed long term acute care hospital located at 2150 Corbin Avenue, New Britain, Connecticut.
2. The Hospital is licensed by the State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health as a chronic disease hospital.
3. The Hospital offers an array of inpatient and outpatient services for patients requiring specialized care and rehabilitation services. It also provides full services to patients suffering from chronic neuromuscular diseases, such as muscular dystrophy ("MD") or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis ("ALS").
4. The Hospital has neurologists on staff and currently owns two electromyography machines. The Hospital proposes to expand its services by employing two additional neurologists and one part-time nurse to improve the coordination of existing services to patients suffering from a chronic neuromuscular disease. The Hospital will refer to the services provided as an MD and/or ALS "clinics".

5. The total capital expenditure for the proposal is \$52,200 for the purchase of two additional electromyograph machines and other non-medical equipment.
6. The Hospital would be responsible for billing for the services.
7. Current payers for the Hospital's services are commercial insurance companies and government payers, e.g. Medicare and Medicaid.
8. Section 19a-638(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S.") states that:

“(2) Each health care facility or institution or state health care facility or institution, including any inpatient rehabilitation facility, which intends to introduce any additional function or service into its program of health care shall submit to the office, prior to the proposed date of the institution of such function or service, a request for permission to undertake such function or service.”

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that the proposal of the Hospital for Special Care to create a chronic neuromuscular disease clinic by employing two neurologists, a part-time nurse and purchasing electromyogram machines does not represent the introduction of an additional function or service at its 2150 Corbin Avenue, New Britain campus. Therefore, pursuant to Section 19a-638(2), C.G.S., CON approval by OHCA is not required for the Hospital for Special Care to create MD and/or ALS clinics on its New Britain campus. Should the Hospital propose any change in the array of health care services to be provided on its New Britain campus or at another location, the Hospital shall file with OHCA appropriate documentation regarding its change, including either a Certificate of Need Determination Request or a Certificate of Need Letter of Intent.

If you have any questions concerning this letter or the Certificate of Need process, please contact Laurie Greci, Associate Research Analyst, at (860) 418-7001.

Sincerely,

Signed by Commissioner Vogel on September 12, 2007

Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

CAV:lkg