



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL  
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL  
COMMISSIONER

June 13, 2008

Charles Therrien  
President, Chief Executive Officer  
Essent Healthcare of CT, Inc. d/b/a Sharon Hospital  
P.O. Box 789  
Sharon, CT 06069

Re: CON Determination Report 08-31171-DTR  
Sharon Hospital  
Proposal to Provide Electro-Convulsive Therapy Service

Dear Mr. Therrien:

On May 28, 2008, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received your Certificate of Need ("CON") Determination Form 2020 concerning the proposal of the Sharon Hospital to provide an electro-convulsive therapy service at a proposed capital expenditure of \$16,235. Upon review of the information contained in Form 2020, OHCA finds the following:

1. Sharon Hospital ("Hospital") is a private, for-profit, acute care hospital located at 50 Hospital Hill Road, Sharon, Connecticut.
2. The Hospital currently provides behavioral health services. The Hospital has a 12-bed psychiatric program for adults ages 55 years of age and older and an Intensive Outpatient Program for adults ages 50 years of age and older.
3. The Hospital proposes to acquire an MECTA 5000M electro-convulsive therapy unit ("unit") to provide its patients with an electro-convulsive therapy ("ECT") service.
4. The ECT service will be performed in a surgical suite by a trained psychiatrist with the involvement of an anesthesiologist.
5. The total capital expenditure for the unit is \$16,235.
6. The Hospital would be responsible for billing for the technical portion of the ECT service and the psychiatrist will bill independently for the professional component.

7. Current payers for the Hospital's services are commercial insurance companies and government payers, e.g. Medicare and Medicaid.
8. The ECT service is covered by most commercial and governmental payers. The Hospital expects that 90% of the patients will be provided the service under Medicare while the other 10% will be a combination of Medicaid and other payers.
9. 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 Sharon Hospital currently provides psychiatric treatment and the addition of an electro-convulsive therapy service does not represent the introduction of an additional function or service at its 50 Hospital Hill Road campus in Sharon. Therefore, pursuant to Section 19a-638(2), C.G.S., CON approval by OHCA is not required for Sharon Hospital to purchase the equipment and provide the electro-convulsive therapy service. Should the Hospital propose any change in the array of health care services to be provided on its campus in Sharon 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 June 13, 2008***

Cristine A. Vogel  
Commissioner

CAV:lkg