

March 19, 2020



Ms. Azzie Y. Conley, Section Chief
Acute & Home Care Licensure and Certification Section
North Carolina Division of Health Service Regulation
2712 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2712

2085 Frontis Plaza Boulevard
Winston-Salem, NC 27103

Re: Urgent Request for Temporary Increase in Licensed Acute Bed Capacity
Novant Health Huntersville Medical Center (FID # 990440; Lic # H0282)

Dear Ms. Conley:

Pursuant to 10A NCAC 13B.3111 and per the March 12, 2020 memorandum related to requests to provide services to patients that may be stricken with COVID-19, we are requesting your approval to temporarily operate above the licensed acute care bed capacity at Novant Health Huntersville Medical Center (NHHMC). *NHHMC is seeking DHSR's approval to temporarily increase by twenty-five (25) the compliment of licensed beds at NHHMC for a period of 180 days.* This would allow NHHMC to staff and operate 164 total inpatient beds, if necessary.

NHHMC is presently licensed for 139 acute care inpatient beds and due to the anticipated influx of patients receiving treatment for COVID-19, awaiting test results for COVID-19, and in order for us to accommodate patients who may need to be relocated to other areas of the facility, we are requesting this temporary increase in bed capacity.

Under the temporary waiver of the 10A NCAC 13B.3111, NHHMC and in response to Governor Roy Cooper's declaration of a state of emergency regarding preparedness for mitigating the COVID-19 virus, NHHMC has the ability to temporarily open and utilize the following areas, which meet federal life safety requirements, for the treatment of patients:

- 15 beds on the 1st floor in Perioperative Services Unit;
- 6 beds in the 1st Floor Recovery Unit;
- 4 beds in the 1st Floor Pre & Post Heart & Vascular Services Unit

I certify that the increase is necessary for public health and safety in the geographic area our hospital serves. As you know, Governor Cooper has declared a state of emergency in North Carolina. As more cases are identified, we expect a demand surge in hospital utilization. At the same time, we must continue meeting the needs of patients who have not been stricken by COVID-19. Thus, there is an immediate need to temporarily increase our licensed bed capacity.

I certify that the physical facilities to be used are adequate to safeguard the health and safety of patients and will be operated in accordance with CMS hospital conditions of participation and any applicable temporary CMS requirements for inpatient care.

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I certify that all hospital patients will receive appropriate care and their health and safety safeguarded. In addition to ensuring that the physical space meets CMS hospital conditions of participation and any applicable temporary CMS requirements for inpatient care, we will ensure we have sufficient staffing in place to care for all our patients.

We look forward to your immediate reply. Please contact me at (336) 718 - 2056 should you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Lindsay". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "L".

Jeff Lindsay
Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer
Novant Health, Inc.