

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 Matthews Medical Center (FID # 945076; Lic # H0270)

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 Matthews Medical Center (NHMMC). NHMMC *is seeking DHSR's approval to temporarily increase by twenty-eight (28) the compliment of licensed beds at NHMMC for a period of 180 days*. This would allow NHMMC to staff and operate 182 total inpatient beds, if necessary.

NHMMC is presently licensed for 154 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, NHMMC and in response to Governor Roy Cooper's declaration of a state of emergency regarding preparedness for mitigating the COVID-19 virus, NHMMC has the ability to temporarily open and utilize the following areas, which meet federal life safety requirements, for the treatment of patients:

- 7 beds on the 1st Floor in former Infusion Unit;
- 3 beds on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor in Cardiopulmonary Services;
- 3 beds on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor in Womens Triage;
- 3 beds on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor in the Wellness Center;
- 2 beds on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor in Endoscopy Services;
- 7 beds on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor in CPPU converting private to semi-private rooms;
- 3 beds on the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor which are Hospice beds to be used as acute care.

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.

Ms. Azzie Y. Conley  
March 19, 2020  
Page 2

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.

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.