



Culpeper Medical Center

501 Sunset Lane
Culpeper, VA 22701

March 31, 2020

Erik Bodin, Director
Division of Certificate of Public Need
Virginia Department of Health
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 401
Richmond, Virginia 23233
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COPN@vdh.virginia.gov

Re: Request for authorization to add 28 beds at Novant Health UVA Culpeper Medical Center PD9 under the authority of EO52

Dear Mr. Bodin:

In response to Executive Order 52, and the need to increase bed capacity within the Commonwealth of Virginia to address expected shortage of acute care capacity due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Novant Health UVA Health System Culpeper Medical Center (NHUVA CPMC) seeks authorization from the State Health Commissioner under EO52 to increase our licensed bed capacity from 70 to 98. Please see the following information which outlines our ongoing and planned activities to expand our capacity to manage the surge in patients' demand for our services.

- **The name and address of the specific facility requesting the additional beds:**

Novant Health UVA Health System Culpeper Medical Center
501 Sunset Lane, Culpeper, Virginia, 22701

- **How many additional licensed beds are requested:**

We are requesting a total of 28 additional beds. See table below for the bed requested by type. These beds are the first steps in expanding capacity to support COVID-19 patients. The spaces identified for capacity expansion are the outputs of a surge capacity assessment by an emergency preparedness consultant (RPA, a Jensen Hughes Company) last fall. The surge capacity assessment outlines the staffing, equipment and supply requirements to activate these

spaces to support a surge in patient volume such as what is expected with the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Beds Requested by Bed Type**

Bed Type	Current Number of Beds	Increase in Beds Requested	Net Beds
1. Hospitals			
Medical/Surgical	54	+28	82
Obstetrical	10		10
Intensive/Coronary Care	6		6
TOTAL	70	+28	98

- **Where the additional licensed beds will be located and if the proposed space currently meets life safe code requirements for the type of patients or residents expected to occupy the space; and if not, what will be done to meet life safety codes requirements for the space:**

Bed Type	Location. E.g. PACU, Pre-op, etc.
1.Hospitals	
Medical/Surgical	+10 PACU
	+8 Pre-Op
	+5 Cancer Center/Infusion Therapy
	+5 Rehabilitation Clinic / Therapy / Gym)

The expansion spaces referenced above are currently used for patient care or have been used for patient care in the past. We will prioritize activation of higher-acuity clinical care space, such as PACU and pre/op first, while the rehab gym and the cancer center area are our lower acuity spaces. These spaces will be activated based on staffing supply and the acuity of our patient. Staffing ratios will also be modified to ensure patient safety and adequate staff coverage.

These proposed areas are or will be provided with medical gas headwalls that will meet the needs of the patients. The hospital has 100% sprinkler coverage and smoke detection coverage as required by the Life Safety Code. The fire alarm and sprinkler systems are monitored 24/7. These areas are part of the hospital's existing Life Safety compartments and suites. The Life Safety Code size limitations will not be exceeded. Egress and additional life safety measures will be taken as needed to ensure safe utilization of these spaces.

- **The planned use of the additional licensed beds (e.g. used to supplement normal operations due to existing bed occupancy by COVID-19 patients, or specifically for COVID-19 patients):**

The additional beds requested will be used to supplement normal operations due to the existing and projected increase in bed occupancy by COVID-19 patients.

- **The plan for staffing the beds**

Our first line of action to address the increase in demand for staff is to redeploy teammates whose regular jobs have been impacted by reduction/cessation of elective procedures and other services at the hospital. They will be redeployed to the areas and departments that will be in high demand during the expected surge of COVID-19 patients. We have also developed a centralized staffing pool that calls in additional services from within and without our health system while optimizing their skills and capabilities. For example, we are working with local physician offices and their clinical staff so that staff who have had hours reduced given the decreased scope of services at physician offices are available to assist with the coming patient surge. We are also collaborating with other partners, including the outpatient surgical hospital on the campus of Prince William Medical Center, to redeploy their staff to hospital functions. In addition, we are examining/adjusting our paid time/days off policy to give us staffing flexibility during the expected surge. We are coordinating with local partners to ensure that staff childcare coverage needs are addressed.

- **Supplies and Equipment Plan for Additional Beds**

We have modified various hospital policies such as visitor and personal protective equipment (PPE) to facilitate appropriate conservation of PPE. We have modified our PPE utilization policies to conserve these supplies while ensuring the safety of our patients, their families, staff and clinicians. We are also working with our Joint Operating Company (JOC) parent organizations – Novant Health and the University of Virginia – as well as local, state and federal bodies to access existing stock of PPE and to increase various supplies needed to support demand for services. We are also accepting donations from the community to enhance our supply needs.

- **Describe Efforts Implemented and Ongoing to Increase availability of existing Beds**

Other efforts that we have employed to expand our capacity to address the expected surge in COVID-19 patients include – postponing or suspending elective procedures/surgeries and patient visits, creating barriers for infection control and transitioning as much ambulatory care as is appropriate to virtual/tele visits.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please let me know if you need further information.

Best regards,



Donna Staton
President,
NHUVA Culpeper Medical Center