



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA
State Health Commissioner

Department of Health
P O BOX 2448
RICHMOND, VA 23218

TTY 7-1-1 OR
1-800-828-1120

February 8, 2021

Dr. Gregg Miller
Senior Vice President Operations
Azura Vascular Care and National Cardiovascular Partners
52 East Swedesford Road, Suite 110
Malvern, Pennsylvania 19355

RE: Azura Vascular Care River City Addition of Inpatient Beds

Dear Dr. Miller:

In accordance with Executive Order 52, I reviewed the request and all supporting documents submitted by Azura Vascular Care and National Cardiovascular Partners to temporarily add 6 beds and expand the scope of surgeries authorized at Azura Vascular Care River City (Azura) in Richmond, Virginia. I have considered the factors listed in my March 24, 2020, letter; and I have concluded that **denial** of the request is warranted based on the following findings:

1. Azura has not demonstrated that, due to the reasonable expectation of a sudden and overwhelming increase in acute care patients resulting from COVID-19 infection, either Azura or Planning District 15 has an immediate need to add six temporarily licensed inpatient beds to accommodate fewer than one patient per week.
2. There appears to be, at least for now, adequate physical inpatient bed capacity in PD 15.
3. Azura's plan and ability to obtain equipment and supplies was not addressed.
4. Azura's plan to expand bed capacity will result in a higher cost of outpatient care in return for a very small number of patients kept from being transferred to an existing acute care hospital.
5. Executive Order 52 authorization is not the appropriate vehicle for changing the scope of COPN authorized services.
6. There has not been a full review and determination of public need for, and there does not appear to be an anecdotal need for, additional outpatient surgical capacity in PD 15 at this time.

Dr. Gregg Miller
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Thank you for your interest in assisting with the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you have any questions, please contact Kimberly Beazley at (804) 367-2109, or by email at Kimberly.Beazley@VDH.Virginia.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

M. Norman Oliver, MD

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M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA
State Health Commissioner