



Advocate Condell Medical Center

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January 14, 2013

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street
Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RECEIVED

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Vista Medical Center – Lindenhurst
Project No.: 12-081

Dear Ms. Avery,

The Review Board rules require that an applicant wishing to establish a cardiac catheterization category of service must request the impact such a new service would have on existing programs. Although the Application did not originally include this information, we understood that you subsequently requested that the application referenced above provide this information. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to the impact a new cardiac catheterization service would have on Advocate Condell Medical Center's program.

We first note that preventative health and other advances have decreased the need for cardiac procedures, both cardiac cath and open heart. There is presently excess capacity and that excess capacity will grow as procedures decline.

Review Board Rules

Per the Administrative Code Section 1100.620c: Need Determination-Cardiac Catheterization Programs:

"No additional Cardiac Catheterization services shall be started unless each facility in the planning area offering Cardiac Catheterization services operates at a level of 400 procedures annually."

As shown in the table below, using the most current available data reported to IDPH, not all Lake County cardiac catheterization programs have a volume greater than 400 procedures. Therefore, the State's requirement has not been met in Lake County and according to Board's rules no additional cardiac catheterization services should be approved for Lake County, Planning Area A-09.

Impact Upon Advocate Condell

The number of cardiac catheterization cases performed at Advocate Condell in 2011 from the Vista's proposed PSA were 789 cases and 71 additional cases in the SSA totaling 860 cases or about 1,118 procedures. This is approximately 50% of the total 2,214 cardiac catheterization procedures at Condell. It would be expected that the number of cardiac catheterization procedures at Condell would decrease by approximately 25% or 550 cardiac cath procedures or 423 cases, translating into a decrease of over 40 open heart surgery cases to less than 125 cases per year.

Advocate Condell's cardiovascular services have achieved a national rating of 3 stars through the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) for the last several quarters. Only 14% of STS participating hospitals receive this rating, the highest ranking for quality. This achievement exemplifies the stellar patient outcomes throughout all of the medical center's cardiovascular services. A decreased volume would challenge Advocate Condell's ability to continue to maintain the STS 3 star rating for our patients.

Cardiac Procedures are Declining

Nationally and regionally, the total number of cardiac Catheterization and open heart surgeries has declined and is expected to continue declining due to advances in technology and medical treatment. Today's improved and more aggressive risk factor and medical management has resulted in a decreased prevalence of coronary artery disease. This fact is contrary to the Vista CON plan to add additional cardiovascular services to meet increased volume in Lake County – both volume and need for cardiovascular services are decreasing.

As outlined in the table, all Lake County open heart surgery programs are currently below the state requirement of 200 cases. Any additional cardiovascular programs would further jeopardize any existing open heart program's ability to achieve the state's requirement. There are already several hospitals in Lake County operating open heart surgery programs with *less than half* of the state's required cases. These case thresholds were calculated to be the volume needed to achieve a quality program.

Performing the minimum required cases is critical to maintaining a high level of clinical quality and proficiency for physicians and staff. Any program with less than 100 open heart surgery cases would find it difficult to support a new program if it is unable to document the quality with their current volumes.

A new Cardiac Catheterization service in this Planning Area would not meet the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board rules and would negatively impact the

current cardiovascular services throughout Lake County. Efforts should instead be focused on strengthening the excellent quality programs that currently exist in this Planning area.

Regards,



Matthew Primack
Vice President Business Development/Clinical Institutes

Robert Kummer mD
Director Open Heart Surgery
Advocate Condell Medical
Center.

Robert Kummer, m.D.

2011 Utilization-Occupancy in Lake County, IL

Lake County Hospital	Cardiac Cath Volume	Number of Cardiac Cath Labs	Cardiac surgery volume
Vista East	1,096	3	65
Lake Forest	349	1	NA
Highland Park	1,252	2	57
Condell	2,214	3	167
Good Shepherd	1,532	2	174
Midwestern Regional	NA	NA	NA

Source: IDPH AHQ information

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