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FAX COVER SHEET

FAX #: 217-785-4111 **Date:** January 16, 2013

Pages: 4

TO: Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator

FROM: Trent Gordon, Good Shepherd Hospital

PHONE: 847-842-4259

FAX: 847-381-8074

RE: Vista Medical Center - Lindenhurst Project no: 12-081

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Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital

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

VIA FAX

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 Good Shepherd Hospital's program.

Review Board Rules

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

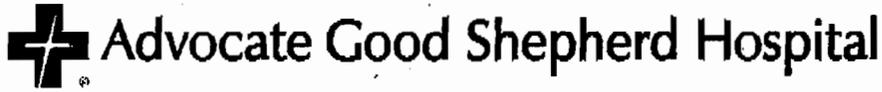
"No additional Cardiac Catheterization services shall be started unless each facility in the planning area offering Cardiac Catheterization services operates at a level of 400 procedures annually."

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 Good Shepherd

As there are no letters of physician referrals included in the application, it is unclear what impact a new cardiac catheterization program would have on Good Shepherd. But any significant influx of new services from the approval of a brand new hospital to the planning area would not be positive on existing providers.

Advocate Good Shepherd'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



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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 Good Shepherd'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.

As outlined in the table, all Lake County open heart surgery programs are currently below the state requirement of 200 cases. Any brand new 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Trent Gordon".

Trent Gordon, FACHE
Director, Business Development and Strategic Planning



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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