



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

May 2, 2006

Karen T. Goyette
Director, Business Development
MidState Medical Center
435 Lewis Avenue
Meriden, CT 06451

Re: Certificate of Need Determination; Report Number 06-30737-DTR
Addition of a Third Hyperbaric Oxygen Chamber

Dear Ms.Goyette:

On May 1, 2006, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received MidState Medical Center's ("MidState") request for a Certificate of Need Determination regarding the addition of a third hyperbaric oxygen chamber at an estimated total capital expenditure of \$25,000. OHCA has reviewed the information contained in your request and makes the following findings:

1. MidState Medical Center ("MidState") is an acute care general hospital located in Meriden.
2. MidState operates two monoplace hyperbaric oxygen chambers ("chambers") in its Wound and Hyperbaric Care Center ("Center") that opened in October 2003.
3. Since October 2004, the chambers have been operating at greater than 80% occupancy. In Fiscal Year 2005, 35% of the Center's visits were for hyperbaric oxygen therapy. In March 2006, the chambers were at 100% occupancy and accommodated seven to eight patients each day.
4. With the existing capacity of two chambers, the Center is only able to accommodate eight patients per day, based on an average treatment time of 110 minutes per patients plus a fifteen minute turnaround time.
5. The high demand for treatments in the chambers has resulted in a current waiting list of four weeks to schedule new patients.

6. MidState proposes to contract with Diversified Therapy Services for the provision of the additional chamber.
7. The total capital expenditure associated with the proposal is \$25,000.
8. Section 19a-638 of the Connecticut General Statutes (“C.G.S.”) states, in part, that the introduction of any additional function or services requires authorization from OHCA.
9. Section 19a-639, C.G.S. states, in part, that each health care facility or institution proposing a capital expenditure exceeding one million dollars (\$1,000,000), or the acquisition of major medical equipment requiring a capital expenditure in excess of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) requires authorization from OHCA.

Based on these findings, OHCA has determined that Certificate of Need authorization is not required for MidState Medical Center to add a third hyperbaric oxygen chamber to its Wound and Hyperbaric Care Center located on MidState’s hospital campus in Meriden.

Thank you for informing OHCA of your plans. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Laurie Greci, Associate Research Analyst, at OHCA at (860) 418-7001.

Sincerely,

Signed by Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

c: Rose McLellan, Licensing Examination Assistant, DHSR, DPH

CAV: lkg