



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL  
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL  
COMMISSIONER

March 16, 2009

Greg Stanton  
Director of Planning  
Lawrence & Memorial Hospital  
365 Montauk Avenue  
New London, CT 06320

Re: Certificate of Need Determination Report Number 09-31319-EXM  
Lawrence & Memorial Hospital  
Acquisition and Implementation of Electronic Medical Record System

Dear Mr. Stanton:

On March 2, 2009, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received Lawrence & Memorial Hospital's ("Hospital") completed Certificate of Need ("CON") Exemption request for the acquisition and implementation of an Electronic Medical Record System ("EMRS"), with an associated capital expenditure of between \$17,000,000 and \$19,000,000.

OHCA has reviewed the information contained in your proposal in light of Section 19a-639a(d) of the Connecticut General Statutes and makes the following findings:

1. The Hospital is an acute care hospital located at 365 Montauk Avenue, New London, Connecticut. The Hospital is considered to be a health care facility or institution as defined by Section 19a-630 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S.").
2. The Hospital is proposing to acquire and implement through purchase an EMRS. Some of the items included in the proposed EMRS are clinical decision support system, picture archiving communications system and computerized provider order entry.

3. The Hospital stated that it recognizes the importance of and the role of information technology, specifically in the following areas:
  - Improving the quality and safety of patient care;
  - Recruiting and retaining physicians;
  - Ensuring the accuracy of billing and complete documentation;
  - Enabling employees to perform their responsibilities efficiently and effectively; and
  - Improving quality and reducing duplication and errors.
4. The Hospital expects to implement the EMRS over a four to five year period.
5. The Hospital utilized guidance from the Health Information Management System Society with respect to the definition of an electronic medical record solution.
6. The total capital expenditure associated with the proposal is expected to be between \$17,000,000 and \$19,000,000.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that Lawrence & Memorial Hospital's proposal for the acquisition and implementation of Electronic Medical Record System, with a total capital expenditure of between \$17,000,000 and \$19,000,000, meets the exemption requirements of Section 19a-639a(d) of the Connecticut General Statutes and therefore, is exempt from OHCA's CON process. Therefore, the proposal does not require Certificate of Need approval.

This project is non-clinical in nature as it will not be providing a new or additional function or service, and is a capital expenditure for an EMRS. If Lawrence & Memorial Hospital's proposal changes in cost, service or scope, Lawrence & Memorial Hospital shall file with OHCA a Certificate of Need Determination Request regarding the proposed change.

Thank you for keeping OHCA informed of your plans regarding this proposal. If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Steven W. Lazarus, Associate Health Care Analyst, at (860) 418-7001.

Sincerely,

***Signed by Commissioner Vogel on March 16, 2009***

Cristine A. Vogel  
Commissioner

CAV:swl