



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality  
Division of Health Care Facility Licensure & Certification  
67 Forest Street, Marlborough, MA 01752

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KARYN E. POLITO  
Lieutenant Governor

June 25, 2020

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Secretary

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BY EMAIL ONLY

**Re: Review of Response Following Essential Services Finding**

**Facility:** Falmouth Hospital  
**Services:** 5 Bed Inpatient Pediatric Service,  
9 Bed Inpatient Obstetrics Service,  
8 Bassinet Well Infant Nursery Service  
**Ref. #:** 2289-316

Dear Attorney Levine:

On June 18, 2020, the Department of Public Health ("Department") received from you, on behalf of Falmouth Hospital Association, Inc., a response to our June 5, 2020, letter indicating that Falmouth Hospital ("Hospital") must file a plan with the Department detailing how access to services will be maintained following the discontinuation of five (5) inpatient Pediatric Service beds, nine (9) inpatient Obstetrics Service beds and eight (8) Well Infant Nursery Service bassinets. Thank you for responding to our request in a timely and comprehensive manner.

Pursuant to 105 CMR 130.122(G) the Department has completed its review of the submitted access plan. As a result of this review, the Department has prepared the following comments:

1. **Alternative Delivery Sites:** In its letter dated June 5, 2020, the Department requested information on location and service capacity of alternative delivery sites.

In your response dated June 18, 2020, you noted that the hospital lists Woman and Infants Hospital in Providence, RI as being among the nearby delivery sites. The Department requests that the hospital provide it with

additional information as to the Hospital's outreach plan to patients with insurance coverage based in Massachusetts. This additional information should detail how the plan will make patients aware of any potential insurance coverage issues that may exist when receiving care at an out-of-state hospital.

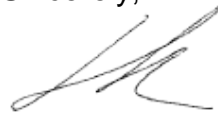
2. **Transportation:** In its letter dated June 5, 2020, the Department requested information on the Hospital's plan to address methods of transportation for patients as well as friends and family to facilities outside of Falmouth.

In your response dated June 18, 2020, you stated Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA) vouchers would be offered as needed to patients and family members of the patient, who would have delivered at the Hospital, but will now deliver at Cape Cod Hospital. The Department is unclear how this program is communicated to families. Additionally, the Department is concerned that the Hospital appears to have such an arrangement with Cape Cod Hospital but none of the other facilities listed as potential alternative care sites.

Under the provisions of 105 CMR 130.122(G), the Hospital must submit a timely response to the comments of the Department. Please submit your comments within 10 days of your receipt of this letter to my attention, in order that we may complete our review of the pending closure.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in this process. If you have any questions, please contact me at (617) 753-8134.

Sincerely,



Sherman Lohnes  
Division Director

cc: E. Kelley, DPH  
S. Davis, DPH  
W. Mackie, DPH  
R. Rodman, DPH  
M. Callahan, DPH  
K. Haynes, DPH