



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 and Certification
67 Forest Street, Marlborough, MA 01752

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March 2, 2026

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BY EMAIL ONLY

Re: Review of Response Following Essential Services Finding
Facility: Brigham and Women's Hospital
Services: Inpatient Burn Service
Ref. #: 2341-X53

Dear Attorney Bloom:

On February 19, 2026, the Department of Public Health (the "Department") received from you, on behalf of Brigham and Women's Hospital, Inc., a response to our February 4, 2026, letter indicating that Brigham and Women's Hospital (the "Hospital") must file a plan with the Department detailing how access to services will be maintained following the closure of its Inpatient Burn Beds. Thank you for responding to our request in a timely 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 comment:

1. **Competency of Staff:** In your response dated February 19, 2026, you stated that the MGH burn service is staffed by highly specialized trained caregivers. Our letter dated February 4, 2026, asked how Brigham and Women's Hospital intends to maintain staff competency once the burn unit has closed. The Department requests the Hospital answer this question regarding competency of staff at Brigham and Women's Hospital, not MGH. The Hospital's response should include but is not limited to staff competency to stabilize and transfer a patient experiencing burns that

require intensive care and to provide burn-related care for contingency, crisis and catastrophic burn care in a mass casualty incident situation.

2. **Utilization of Inpatient Burn Services:** In your response dated February 19, 2026 you provided a chart showing the average daily census for patients with primary diagnoses of burns from September 1, 2025 to presumably present. Our letter dated February 4, 2026 asked for information on utilization of the services prior to proposed closure, including patients admitted to this service's beds and patients admitted to the Hospital with a burn diagnosis. The Department requests the Hospital answer this question by providing the counts of patients with any diagnoses of burn-related injuries (ICD CM-10th Ed. T20-T32 or Diagnostic Related Grouping 927-935) as well as the mean and median length of stays for both the previous two fiscal years (FY 2024 and FY 2025) as well as this fiscal year to date (FY 2026) .

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 Stephen.Davis@Mass.Gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Step Davis", written in a cursive style.

Stephen Davis
Division Director

cc: T. Smith, DPH
A. Sousa, DPH
K. Fillo, DPH
J. Gagne, DPH
M. Callahan, DPH

