

Follow up Questions for NSMC Amendment 3C46.2

Applicant's Responses

Include the patient panel need for NSMC, the Partners System, and MGH.

As reflected in the quarterly reports submitted to the DoN Program since the significant amendment was approved, NSMC has transferred 109, 114 and 115 patients on average per month across FY17 4th quarter and the first 2 quarters of FY18, respectively. These transfers represent patients originating within NSMC's primary service area and also from outside its service area. In addition, MGH transfers on average 600 patients per year that originate from the NSMC PSA to other inpatient facilities. The currently approved 3 units will not accommodate demand by MGH patients that reside in the NSMC service area. Currently, the occupancy rate of NSMC's adult psychiatric unit is 94%.

Include the progress on the joint (with MGH) planning for specialized psychiatric programs that were described in the initial DoN Application.

The NSMC and MGH Psychiatric Leadership teams have continued to work together to develop a vision for collaboration that will maximize the performance and system coordination of the new psychiatric facility on the Salem campus. This vision includes working with MGH to enhance staffing, programmatic development, and training within the Psychiatric service. Through strong coordination, both NSMC and MGH will be able to seamlessly transfer patients to the Salem campus and keep additional cases within the Partners system. This is particularly important as provider organizations are encouraged to address the needs of the MassHealth ACO panel.

Furthermore, MGH and NSMC have begun joint planning around basic program development and staffing in the units, enhancements to care provided through the expertise at MGH, alternative forms of consultation like telemedicine to bring subspecialty expertise to NSMC's patients and understanding how they might best extend the teaching program to the community.