

**Everest Hospital, LLC**  
**DON # 23101112-TO**

**APPLICANT QUESTIONS 3**

*Responses should be sent to DoN staff at [DPH.DON@mass.gov](mailto:DPH.DON@mass.gov)*

While you may submit each answer as available, please

- List question number and question for each answer you provide
- Submit responses as a separate word document, using the above application title and number as a running header and page numbers in the footer
- We accept answers on a rolling basis however, when providing the answer to the final question, submit all questions and answers in order in one final document.
- Submit responses in WORD or EXCEL; only use PDF's if absolutely necessary. **Whenever possible, include a table in data format (NOT pdf or picture) with the response.**

In order for us to review this project in a timely manner, please provide the responses by **July 8, 2025**.

1. Please provide the following information:

	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
Vibra Unique Patients (collected at discharge)	338	297	292	244	204
Number of Licensed Beds	47	47	47	47	47
Number of Staffed Beds	28	29	30	27	24

2. Please compare the cost per day for patients awaiting transfer at an acute care hospital to the cost per pay of providing care in the LTCH setting.

In March 2025, the Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association reported to the Health Policy Commission and the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing that hospitals spend \$400 million annually to care for patients who were awaiting discharge to the appropriate post acute settings.<sup>1</sup> However, it is difficult to quantify the cost of care in an inpatient setting, as the cost will fluctuate based on each patient's specific needs. Furthermore, it is difficult to compare the cost of caring for a patient in a short-term acute care hospital (STACH) versus an LTCH, as LTCH patients are the most critically ill and medically complex, and are likely to have greater needs than many STACH patients.

Applicant does not have access to confidential cost information for acute care hospitals and must therefore rely on publicly available information. The American Hospital Directory published a November 2014 report comparing the per-day estimated facility costs for the providing care in a STACH

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<sup>1</sup> MASS. HEALTH & HOSP. ASSN, TESTIMONY REGARDING THE POTENTIAL MODIFICATION OF THE 2026 HEALTHCARE COST GROWTH BENCHMARK (Mar. 14, 2025), [https://masshpc.gov/sites/default/files/2025-03/2025\\_Benchmark\\_Testimony\\_MHA.pdf](https://masshpc.gov/sites/default/files/2025-03/2025_Benchmark_Testimony_MHA.pdf).

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versus an LTCH.<sup>2</sup> To this data, we applied an inflation rate of 28.3%, which is the percentage CPI increase from November 2014 to May 2025 for Medical Care for the Boston-Cambridge-Newton Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA) of Massachusetts.<sup>3</sup>

The following is a rough calculation of the per-day cost of care in an STACH versus an LTCH in May 2025, arranged by DRG code:

MS DRG	STACH Cost per Day (Nov 2014)	STACH Cost per Day (May 2025)	LTACH Cost per Day (Nov 2014)	LTACH Cost per Day (May 2025)
004	\$ 2,636.00	\$ 3,381.99	\$ 1,819.00	\$ 2,333.78
177	\$ 1,861.00	\$ 2,387.66	\$ 1,276.00	\$ 1,637.11
193	\$ 1,784.00	\$ 2,288.87	\$ 1,235.00	\$ 1,584.51
207	\$ 2,540.00	\$ 3,258.82	\$ 1,670.00	\$ 2,142.61
208	\$ 2,152.00	\$ 2,761.02	\$ 1,565.00	\$ 2,007.90
297	\$ 1,884.00	\$ 2,417.17	\$ 1,299.00	\$ 1,666.62
853	\$ 2,461.00	\$ 3,157.46	\$ 1,441.00	\$ 1,848.80
870	\$ 2,870.00	\$ 3,682.21	\$ 1,569.00	\$ 2,013.03
871	\$ 2,018.00	\$ 2,589.09	\$ 1,257.00	\$ 1,612.73

By comparison, a recent state-by-state breakdown on average costs of hospital stays in the US for 2025 found that the average cost per inpatient day at STACH in Massachusetts was \$3,529.<sup>4</sup> As previously noted, we presume that the average cost of a patient who will be discharged to an LTCH would be significantly higher, as these patients are more likely to have more complicated medical issues than patients discharged to other post-acute settings.

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<sup>2</sup> AM. HOSP. DIRECTORY, COST ANALYSIS: STACHS VERSUS LTACHS, Nov. 2014, [https://www.ahd.com/news/HFM\\_DataTrends\\_2014\\_November.pdf](https://www.ahd.com/news/HFM_DataTrends_2014_November.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR ALL URBAN CONSUMERS: MEDICAL CARE IN BOSTON-CAMBRIDGE-NEWTON, MA-NH (CBSA), FED. RESERVE BANK ST. LOUIS, <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/CUURA103SAM> (last updated June 11, 2025). Historical Medical Services CPI information for the CBSA of Springfield is not available. The only Medical Services CPI information available for Massachusetts pertains to the Boston-Cambridge-Newton CBSA.

<sup>4</sup> R. McAllister, *State-by-State Breakdown – Average Cost of Hospital Stays in the U.S. 2025*, NCHSTATS (Nov. 22, 2024), [https://nchstats.com/average-cost-of-hospital-stays-in-us/#google\\_vignette](https://nchstats.com/average-cost-of-hospital-stays-in-us/#google_vignette) (last updated July 2, 2025).