

Weymouth Endoscopy, LLC
WE-24062414-AS

APPLICANT QUESTIONS #3 – APPLICANT RESPONSES OCTOBER 10, 2024

Responses should be sent to DoN staff at DPH.DON@State.MA.US

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
- When providing the answer to the final question, submit all questions and answers in one final document
- Submit responses in WORD or EXCEL; only use PDF's if absolutely necessary. If "cutting and pasting" charts, provide them in a PDF so they can be clearly seen
- **Whenever possible, include a table with the response**
- **For HIPAA compliance Do not include numbers.**

Factor 1a: Patient Panel Need

1. Explain Weymouth Endoscopy's relationship with South Shore Hospital.

Response:

There is a clinical relationship between South Shore Hospital and Applicant; the hospital does not employ its own gastroenterologists. The physicians who own Weymouth Endoscopy are credentialed at South Shore Hospital and provide on-call coverage for the hospital's acute patients as part of their membership on the hospital's medical staff (7 days a week – 24 hours a day). The hospital also reserves a block of time for Applicant's physicians for outpatient procedures from 7:30a.m.-11:00 a.m. Monday-Friday. After 11 a.m. daily, the hospital also has set aside a block of time for inpatient procedures. During off hours, Applicant's physicians also perform emergent procedures in the operating room. Applicant's physician group bills for professional services rendered at the hospital and the hospital bills for the technical component. Applicant's physicians follow hospital policy and procedures while practicing at the hospital.

2. The application states, "WE will continue to have the reserved block of time at the South Shore Hospital currently used for approximately 50% overflow patients and 50% for patients who have a medical necessity to have their Procedures in a hospital setting (including for patients of size the volume for which is increasing)."
 - a. Please define "patient of size".

Response:

The Department uses the term "patients of size" as part of its plan approval process and the term has been used in other DoN applications. See: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/op10-outpatient-surgery-facilities/download>; (See Section 2.7-2 on pg 2 -3.) The Applicant identifies a patient of size based on South Shore Hospital's practices, as follows: Patients with a body mass index (BMI) over 40 are expected to have their procedures done at the hospital due to the increased risk of

Weymouth Endoscopy, LLC

WE-24062414-AS

airway complications. Patients of Size with a BMI over 50 must have their procedures performed in the operating room per hospital policy.

Factor 1c - Operate Efficiently and Effectively

3. The application states the Applicant will continue to share electronic medical record ("EMR") with Healthcare South P.C. and South Shore Medical Center and can directly share results with these practices via the EMR which will facilitate care coordination and continuity of care. The close coordination with primary care practices will also encourage patient compliance with screening and follow up visits (pg.21).

- a. Describe WE's process for sharing medical records with Manet Community Health Center?

Response:

Presently Manet faxes patient information to Weymouth Endoscopy. Once both the procedure and pathology report are completed by Applicant, the 2 reports are faxed to Manet. Applicant is hopeful that there will be better interoperability of electronic health records between the organizations in the future.

4. The Applicant proposed three measures to report on to assess the impact of the Proposed Project: Withdrawal Time, Adenoma Detection Rate, and Patient Satisfaction (pg.18).
 - a. Please confirm whether the Applicant will be able to report annually on the Adenoma Detection Rate stratified by race/ethnicity and by payer mix.

Response:

Yes, Applicant can report in this manner.

KBIMANAGE\4000\0001\2136500.v3-10/10/24