**APPLICANT QUESTIONS**

*Responses should be sent to DoN staff at* [DPH.DON@State.MA.US](mailto:DPH.DON@State.MA.US)

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| --- |
| 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 January 23, 2024.

**10.5.d Provide a detailed narrative, comparing the approved project to the proposed Significant Change, and the rationale for such change.**

1. On Table 2: Projected Volume (Page 3 of Narrative):
   1. Please provide more detail at the method used to determine these volume projections.

Table 2 reflects the expected ramp up for the proposed three operating rooms.  The projected volume assumes an average of 850 cases will be performed in each OR. The average projected number of cases is based on historical average MG Waltham OR utilization of 950 cases per OR per year when consideration is made for the mix of cases that will be performed.  Historical cases at MG Waltham included a mix of surgery and endoscopy, with endoscopy having a shorter case length.  In FY23, MG Waltham opened an endoscopy suite, allowing for these shorter cases to be performed outside of the ambulatory ORs. Accordingly, case lengths for more complex surgical procedures that can be accommodated in the ambulatory ORs was used to determine the volume projections for new operating rooms.

The projected volume is based on both reducing wait times at MG Waltham and on shifting clinically appropriate cases from the MGH main campus. The application noted that there were 8,726 surgical procedures performed at the MGH main campus in FY23 that met clinical criteria to be treated in an outpatient surgical center.  MGH assumes that approximately one-third of those cases would fill the proposed new OR rooms over time. These cases often have longer case lengths because it is increasingly recognized that more complex cases can be performed in the outpatient setting and are reimbursed as such.  Shifting these clinically appropriate cases will facilitate timely access in a lower cost and convenient setting, improving wait times for patients that would otherwise have to go to the main campus for surgery, including patients originating from the Waltham area.

b. Please include the anticipated fiscal years for Years 1-5 of the table.

**Table 2. MG Waltham Projected Surgical Volume**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project Years** | **FY27** | **FY28** | **FY29** | **FY30** | **FY31** |
| Case Volume | 1,275 | 1,913 | 2,550 | 2,550 | 2,550 |