

April 27, 2011

Dear Health Care Partner:

The Office of Health Care Access (OHCA), a division of the Department of Public Health, is charged with establishing a Statewide Health Care Facilities and Services Plan in order to:

- Help provide a foundation for the agency's decisions in its regulatory actions, and
- Serve as a blueprint and resource for health care delivery in the state by providing guidance on the appropriate balance of accessible quality health care for Connecticut's citizens.

In the fall of 2010, OHCA convened an Advisory Body to provide guidance to OHCA on the guiding principles, standards, criteria and methodologies as well as sources of facility and service data on health care facilities. The Advisory Body has been meeting monthly as OHCA continues to prepare for the Plan's release in June of 2012.

OHCA now plans to convene a subcommittee of experts to focus discussion on *acute care services/ambulatory surgery*. OHCA would appreciate your participation as a member of this subcommittee because of the level of expertise and knowledge we feel you can bring to discussions critical to the development of the acute care services and ambulatory surgery sections of the Plan. Specifically, the Acute Care Services/Ambulatory Surgery Subcommittee will be responsible for:

- Reviewing and/or recommending service standards, guidelines and methodologies for acute care bed need, ambulatory surgery and operating rooms;
- Identifying data limitations and suggesting potential data sources;
- Reviewing and/or identifying possible unmet need; and
- Recommending subject matter experts to assist in subcommittee tasks.

Meetings will be held monthly for a limited period of time during 2011 and the first meeting will be scheduled in mid-May in order to for the subcommittee to begin to accomplish the above listed tasks. We will make every effort to schedule these meetings at a convenient time for all members. Complete information on the activities of the Advisory Body can be found at:

<http://www.ct.gov/ohca/cwp/view.asp?a=3990&q=469574>

Please contact my administrative assistant, Barbara Olejarz, at (860) 418-7005 or Barbara.olejarz@ct.gov to confirm your participation as a Subcommittee member by no later than May 6, 2011.

Please contact me at kimberly.martone@ct.gov if you have any questions regarding this matter or whether you'd like to suggest another member of your organization for participation. Your assistance in the important endeavor is greatly appreciated.

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