STATE OF CONNECTICUT



OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL GOVERNOR CRISTINE A. VOGEL COMMISSIONER

August 1, 2006

Ms. Jacqueline Epright
Director of Business Development Support
Gaylord Hospital
Gaylord Farm Road
P.O. Box 400
Wallingford, CT 06492

RE: Certificate of Need Determination; Report Number 06-30811-DTR Terminate sleep lab services in Wallingford and New Haven Establish sleep lab services in North Haven Gaylord Hospital

Dear Ms. Epright:

On July 21, 2006, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received your response to OHCA's July 6, 2006 inquiry regarding the establishment of a Gaylord Hospital sleep lab center in Trumbull. With the responses received, the Hospital provided further information regarding another project currently in process regarding sleep lab services; specifically the consolidation and relation of sleep medicine services from Wallingford and New Haven to North Haven. This project is being reviewed by OHCA under Certificate of Need ("CON") Determination 06-30811-DTR. OHCA has reviewed the information contained in the July 21, 2006 submission and makes the following findings:

- 1. Gaylord Hospital (the "Hospital") is a chronic disease hospital located in Wallingford Connecticut and a health care facility or institution pursuant to Section 19a-630 of the Connecticut General Statutes.
- 2. The Hospital is planning to relocate its sleep medicine centers from Wallingford and New Haven to 6 Devine Street in North Haven. The capacity of the relocated lab will increase from 11 to 12 sleep lab beds. Currently there are 6 beds in Wallingford and 5 labs in New Haven. The Hospital plans to begin testing patients at the new North Haven location on August 2, 2006.

- 3. The 6 Devine Street location is the new Gaylord Wellness Center which was reviewed and authorized by OHCA under Docket Number 02-580. The establishment of the sleep lab services at that location was not included in that CON authorization.
- 4. The Hospital indicates that it is the largest provider of Sleep Medicine services in Connecticut, with accredited centers located throughout the state. In these sleep lab facilities, the Hospital performs sleep diagnosis resulting from respiratory and neurological causes, such as sleep apnea, insomnia, narcolepsy and hypertension.
- 5. The Hospital's sleep lab physicians are board-certified in Sleep Medicine and all of the Hospital's sleep centers have received accreditation from the American Academy of Sleep Medicine.
- 6. The Hospital's sleep lab locations are satellites of Gaylord Hospital, although they are not listed as such on the Hospital's facility license.
- 7. The North Haven sleep lab center is intended to primarily serve New Haven, Meriden, Wallingford, Hamden, West Haven, Cheshire, Milford, East Haven, North Haven, Middletown, Waterbury and other surrounding communities.
- 8. All sleep medicine services are billed under the Hospital's provider number and the Hospital manages all the sleep medicine services.
- 9. The capital expenditure incurred to establish this service location was \$321,135. Operating funds are being used to finance this capital expenditure.
- 4. Section 19a-638 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S.") states, in part, that the introduction of any additional function or services and the termination of a health care function or service require authorization from OHCA.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that Gaylord Hospital has terminated a sleep medicine center in Wallingford and New Haven and has established a new sleep medicine center in North Haven, both pursuant to Section 19a-638 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Therefore, CON approval is required for this termination of a health care service and establishment of a new health care service.

OHCA considers the submission of information received on July 21, 2006 as the Letter of Intent for this matter; therefore Gaylord Hospital may file a completed CON application with OHCA

between September 19, 2006 and November 18, 2006. The CON application is being mailed to your attention separately. If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Karen Roberts, Compliance Officer at (860) 418-7041.

Sincerely,

Signed by Commissioner Vogel on August 1, 2006

Cristine A. Vogel Commissioner

Copy: Rose McClellen, License & Applications Supervisor, Facilities Licensing & Investigations, DPH