

October 13, 2017

Illinois Health Facilities and Service Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RECEIVED

OCT 25 2017

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

RE: Proposed In-Center Hemodialysis Facilities
#17-013 - Geneva Crossing Dialysis (Carol Stream, Illinois)
#17-014 - Rutgers Park Dialysis (Woodridge, Illinois)
#17-015 - Stone Quarry Dialysis (Hodgkins, Illinois)
#17-016 - Salt Creek Dialysis (Villa Park, Illinois)

Dear Chair Olson and Members of the Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board:

I am writing to express support of the Certificate of Need requests filed by DaVita Inc. and DuPage Medical Group, Ltd. for the development of new In-Center Hemodialysis facilities to provide life-sustaining dialysis treatment, education, and support for patients with kidney disease.

I am physician that is board certified in Nephrology & Internal Medicine and I am a member of DuPage Medical Group ("DMG"). Throughout its history, DMG has developed a leading environment of care coordination and collaboration among its medical staff, focusing on the delivery of high quality, innovative clinical care.

I can personally attest to success of DMG's care model and commitment to innovation for our patients and providers. There are many advantages to being taken care of by a DMG team, such as the outstanding Electronic Medical Record system "EMR" that facilitates the process of gathering information and utilizing them, there is also the fact that one doctor can communicate easily with other doctors through the EMR which leads to a comprehensive plan across the lines of different subspecialties.

To enable our physicians, DMG has invested in robust administrative support to provide integrated care across specialties, leveraging access to patient data to increase quality, improve outcomes, and keep physicians and patients closely connected to each level of care that composes the complete picture of a patient's health. We have tools and protocols that make scheduling and appointment functions easier for patients, increasing their adherence to treatment plans and the monitoring of their health.

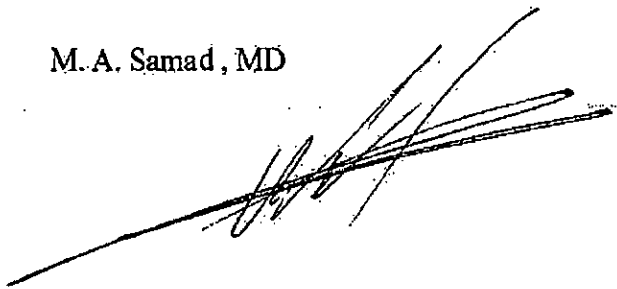
In partnership with DaVita, I believe DMG can offer dialysis patients an improved model of care. Patients with end-stage renal disease are among the most complex within the entire health care spectrum. Currently, most dialysis care is segregated from the rest of a patient's continuity of care, with patient records often difficult to obtain for timely care coordination by primary care physicians and other specialists that can assist with optimal renal treatment plans. I hope DMG and DaVita are afforded an opportunity to implement innovations for dialysis care within the community.

Like most things in life, competition drives perfection and innovation, this is especially true for medicine in general and dialysis in particular, where the patient can be in the driver seat again and can dictate his or her wishes rather than being stuck with one option in such a large geographic area as the suburbs of the great city of Chicago.

For these reasons, I ask that the Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board approve the dialysis facility applications submitted by DuPage Medical Group and DaVita.

Sincerely,

M. A. Samad, MD

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of several overlapping, fluid strokes that form a cursive representation of the name M. A. Samad.

1