

March 28, 2018

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: DaVita Romeoville Dialysis - Project #17-047

Dear Ms. Avery:

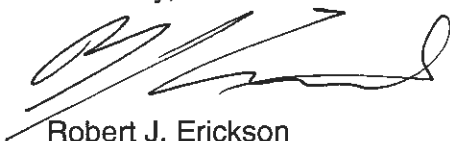
We offer our support for the DaVita Romeoville Dialysis project. Presence Saint Joseph Medical Center has proudly served Romeoville and the southern suburbs area for over 100 years. The Romeoville community has grown significantly in recent years. Unfortunately, the percentage of people with chronic kidney disease is also rising. The population growth combined with the increased incident in kidney disease is creating greater need for dialysis services in the area.

We are seeing an increased number of patients with kidney disease in our hospital as almost 15% of American adults suffer chronic kidney disease (CKD). We are fortunate to collaborate with many excellent nephrologists on our staff in caring for our patients with kidney disease. We are pleased that Dr. Teresa Kravets, the medical director of the proposed DaVita Romeoville facility, and many of the other nephrologists involved are members of our medical staff. We would value continuing to work with them in this new facility.

An optimal care plan for patients with CKD includes strategies to slow the loss of kidney function, manage comorbidities, and prevent or treat cardiovascular disease and other complications of CKD, as well as ease the transition to kidney replacement therapy. Early identification of CKD and deliberate treatment of end-stage renal disease (ESRD) by multidisciplinary teams leads to improved disease management and care, mitigating the risk of disease advancement and patient mortality.

We believe we can work well with Dr. Kravets and DaVita in caring for their patients with kidney disease, and we support the Review Board's approval of DaVita Romeoville ESRD facility.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Erickson
President