



UnityPoint Health
Trinity

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June 2, 2020

Courtney Avery
Board Administrator
Health Facilities and Services Review Board
Illinois Department of Public Health
525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: The Quad Cities Rehabilitation Institute, LLC's Proposal to Establish a 40-bed Comprehensive Physical Rehabilitation Hospital in Rock Island County, HSA10

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am a board certified in critical care and pulmonary medicine and am writing in support of The Quad Cities Rehabilitation Institute, LLC's Certificate of Need proposal for an acute comprehensive inpatient rehab hospital in Rock Island County, HSA10. As a practicing physician specializing in Pulmonary and Critical Care providing intensivist services, I work in UnityPoint Health-Trinity Rock Island and UnityPoint Health-Trinity Bettendorf.

Approval of this CON will provide patients with diagnoses of stroke, hip fractures, brain injuries, multi-trauma and other neurological diagnoses with associated CHF, COPD, asthma, or other co-morbid conditions a cost effective, efficient comprehensive inpatient rehab hospital in the local area. In addition to their primary and secondary diagnosis, this patient population has many health problems including difficulty ambulating, fatigue, balance deficits, neuropathy, joint pain and stiffness. All of these conditions contribute to a decrease in their independence as this impacts their activities of daily living. Physical therapy in a skilled nursing facility may be helpful in some cases, but the patients we often care for are those instances that require intensive physical, occupational, and speech rehabilitation, rehab trained physicians and nurses to really assist the patient resume as much cognitive and functional independence as possible.

The challenge then becomes where to send the patient. From my experience, those who have gone to the UPH Trinity inpatient rehab unit, were able to return to home or other living situation quicker and achieved much better outcomes. The problem however, is the lack of enough beds within the existing unit due to space constraints and no private rooms. The existing space within our hospital could be far better utilized for other needs or services. This approval for a new, free-standing inpatient rehab hospital will allow patients to have their own private room, expanded and state of the art therapy equipment and gym, and participation of their own family support system in the local area.

For these reasons, I fully support and hope you will grant a Certificate of Need for the building of an acute comprehensive rehabilitation hospital in Rock Island County. The citizens of the Quad Cities that need this level of intense rehabilitative care will greatly benefit and have the best potential for achieving the highest level of functional outcomes and return to their activities of daily living. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth Schupp MD

Elizabeth Schupp, MD

Board Certified Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine