

**Medical Group**

July 21, 2021  
Ms. Courtney Avery  
Administrator  
Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

**RECEIVED**

AUG 04 2021

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

**Cheong Jun Lee MD FACS**

Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery  
NorthShore University Health System  
Associate Professor of Surgery  
University of Chicago Pritzker School of  
Medicine

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RE: NorthShore University HealthSystem – Cardiovascular Institute Modernization  
CON Permit Application No. 21-016

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing to inform you of my full support for NorthShore University HealthSystem's (NorthShore) Certificate of Need request for the centralization of cardiology, cardiac surgery, and vascular surgery services and construction of a new Cardiovascular Institute (CVI) at NorthShore Glenbrook Hospital in Glenview. This new complex uniquely positions NorthShore as a singular regional destination for high-end cardiac and vascular care.

As the head of NorthShore's Vascular Surgery division, our team has experienced significant growth including a 65% increase in procedural volume over the past three years. Also, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, growth in vascular procedure volume has been realized and continually anticipated with more than 730 cases in our current fiscal year alone compared to a year ago.

Since 2018, we have seen procedural growth most significantly in the peripheral arterial disease space (PAD). Adoption of advanced endovascular techniques for PAD treatment have expanded the armamentarium of minimally invasive therapies. As such, we expect our endovascular peripheral vascular interventions to nearly triple this fiscal year.

Equally important is NorthShore being one of three select centers in Illinois that offers comprehensive expertise and innovative surgical techniques for treatment of aortic aneurysms and other aortic pathologies. In fact, we have accepted patient transfers with complex aortic diseases from our academic affiliate University of Chicago for surgical management.

A clear and present need exists for the building of a state of the art cardiovascular facility in order to address the vascular diseases in the community we serve. With a new institute at

Glenbrook, patients within the greater region will have improved access for cutting edge vascular care. There is significant momentum in the current Vascular Surgery program growth due to advanced endovascular therapies that further drive the impetus to build the next level facility and infrastructure.

I respectfully ask and appreciate your full consideration of this request. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cheong Jun Lee', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cheong Jun Lee, MD, FACS  
Division Chief of Vascular Surgery  
Associate Professor of Surgery  
University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine