

ALTERNATIVES

The selected project proposes to add pain management services at Olympian Surgical Suites. This new service, as well as the transfer of certain outpatient general surgery and gastroenterology cases from OSF Heart of Mary Medical Center in Urbana, will increase cases at the under-utilized surgery center to a level that meets annual State utilization standards.

During the planning phase, three other alternative projects were considered:

Alternative 1: Expand the surgical center with pain management services and other service lines not currently approved at Olympian Surgical Suites.

Alternative 2: Add pain management at OSF Heart of Mary Medical Center instead of at the Olympian Surgical Suites

Alternative 3: Do nothing

Each of these alternatives is described below.

Alternative 1: Expand the surgical center with pain management services and other service lines not currently approved at Olympian Surgical Suites.

Olympian Surgical Suites is approved for general surgery, gastroenterology and plastic surgery. The facility has been used over the past decade mostly for bariatric surgery, which is covered as part of general surgery. There is significant available capacity because of the low utilization for bariatric surgery cases.

OSF acquired a 75% ownership interest in the outpatient surgical center in June, 2023. Part of its motivation was to locate a pain management practice at the surgery center and recruit a known pain management specialist from outside the Planning Area. This recruitment would enhance the availability of pain management expertise within the OSF system in central Illinois.

OSF considered adding other new services not now approved at Olympian Surgical Suites and in addition to pain management to meet area needs and increase utilization of the surgery center. Instead of adding other services not now at Olympian Surgical Suites, it chose to transfer some outpatient general surgery cases and GI procedures now being done at OSF Heart of Mary Medical Center. The plan is to bring an annual volume of 900 to 1,000 cases from Heart of Mary Medical Center, through the assignment of 5 surgeons now at HMMC.

Two of these physicians were recruited to OSF Heart of Mary Medical Center in mid to late 2023: Dr. W. Gregory Ward, a general surgeon, and Dr. Jelena Surla, a gastroenterologist, recruited from Tennessee. Their practices are growing month by month. Collectively, the new pain management volumes, the outpatient surgery and GI procedures and continued bariatric cases have the potential of fully utilizing the two ORs at Olympian Surgical Suites within a few years.

New types of surgery would also likely require different equipment than is currently in place at the surgery center, potentially avoiding \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 in equipment costs. As a result, it was decided not to initiate other new surgery lines beyond pain management.