

**Green Mountain Care Board**  
144 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05602

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www.gmcbboard.vermont.gov

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## **DELIVERED ELECTRONICALLY**

January 3, 2020

Mr. Jonathan Billings  
Northwestern Medical Center  
133 Fairfield St.  
St. Albans, VT 05478

**RE: Docket No. GMCB-003-19con, Renovation/Construction of Emergency Department,  
Project Cost: \$7,616,215**

Dear Jonathan:

Thank you for your responses to the last set of questions for the above-referenced project. Please provide the following information:

1. For 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 (to date), provide, in a table format: (a) NMC's total number of ED visits; (b) the total number and percentage of ED visits that were mental health visits; (c) the number and percentage of ED mental health visits where services were sought voluntarily; and (d) the total number and percentage of ED mental health visits where the patient was committed involuntarily. Explain how these volumes relate to the number of rooms that would be needed to treat persons with mental health conditions.
2. Confirm that the doors from the main hallway into the area where the two designated mental health rooms and the two convertible rooms are located do not automatically lock at all times and can remain unlocked. Also confirm that the doors to each of the four rooms and the door between the two sets of rooms do not automatically lock at all times and can remain unlocked. Describe the steps that are required to lock and unlock each of these doors.
3. It is represented that the two convertible rooms could be used to treat any population. Confirm whether these two "convertible" rooms are also ligature resistant and could be used for mental health visits to the ED.
4. On page 5 of responses to questions dated December 23, 2019, it is stated that guidance has not yet been formalized regarding when the doors into the area from the main hallway, the four rooms and door between the two sets of rooms and this area will be locked or unlocked to be compliant



with CMS and state regulations and statutes. Please submit the policy NMC will follow regarding locked areas that is compliant with all CMS requirements and state statutes.

In responding, restate the question in bold font and respond in unmolded font. Send an electronic copy to me at [donna.jerry@vermont.gov](mailto:donna.jerry@vermont.gov) and one hard copy (three-hole punched) with a Verification Under Oath to my attention at the Green Mountain Care Board, 144 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05602.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 802-828-2918.

Sincerely,

*s/ Donna Jerry*

Donna Jerry

Senior Health Policy Analyst

cc. Michael Barber, General Counsel  
Green Mountain Care Board

