



Green Mountain  
Surgery Center

October 10, 2021

Via Email and US First Class Mail

Donna Jerry  
Senior Health Policy Analyst  
Green Mountain Care Board  
144 State Street  
Montpelier, Vermont 05620

Re: Green Mountain Surgery Center GMCB-010-15con – Request for Relief from Public Reporting of Condition B21 Data

Dear Donna,

We are writing to request partial relief from Condition B 21 in the Green Mountain Surgery Center CON which requires GMSC to post case data pertaining to surgeons' cases done at area hospitals versus at GMSC. As you know, we had already requested and been granted relief from a portion of this condition in 2019 when we requested to report the data in aggregate rather than by individual surgeon, due to surgeon concern for privacy.

Our surgeons continue to find this condition problematic, even when data is reported in aggregate. For instance, certain specialties may show numbers from 4 different practices, each with multiple surgeons. However, cases from some specialties presented in aggregate show numbers from only one practice, or even one surgeon; therefore, the entire scope of that practice (one surgeon) is publicly available on the GMSC website. We find this to be problematic on many fronts. Our surgeons find this unfair to solo and small practices and are concerned about its potential impact on privacy, medicolegal and credentialing issues.

Because this data is pertinent only to the Board's oversight of how GMSC is affecting case volumes at local hospitals, and not important to the public or to patients, and because of our surgeons' concerns, we request relief from the requirement to post this data publicly on our website. We will, of course, continue to provide the data confidentially to the Green Mountain Care Board for review as part of our implementation reports. The surgeons are accepting of that condition, due to its confidentiality.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing back from you on this matter.

Sincerely,

Amy Cooper  
CEO