

**STATE OF VERMONT
GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD**

In re: University of Vermont Medical Center)
Request for Relief from Sanctions)
Central Sterile Reprocessing Equipment) Docket No. GMCB-021-24con
Replacement)
_____)

**ORDER APPROVING REQUEST FOR
PROSPECTIVE RELIEF FROM SANCTIONS**

On July 19, 2024, the University of Vermont Medical Center Inc. (UVM Medical Center) requested prospective relief from sanctions for making limited capital expenditures to replace certain equipment essential to the hospital’s Central Sterile Reprocessing (CSR) Department. The equipment in question consists of several CSR autoclaves, low-temp sterilizers, instrument washers, and pack and prep tables. The equipment is at the end of its useful life and is experiencing down-time related to age and condition. The total cost to replace the equipment is approximately \$3,539,316 and the replacement would not, if considered by itself, trigger CON review.

UVM Medical Center intends to file an application for a CON in the spring of 2025 to fully redesign and renovate its CSR space. UVM Medical Center finds it necessary to replace the equipment in question now, however, while it prepares the CON application for the CSR renovation. UVM Medical Center would replace this equipment even if it decides not to proceed with the CSR renovation project.

UVM Medical Center requests prospective relief from sanctions because the equipment replacement, while below the CON jurisdictional thresholds when considered by itself, could be considered a “related project component” of the future CSR renovation project and GMCB rules prohibit a health care facility from avoiding CON jurisdiction by separating what would otherwise be a new health care project requiring a CON into separate components. *See* GMCB Rule 4.207(1).

For the reasons outlined in its July 19, 2024, request, and based upon the representations therein, UVM Medical Center’s request for prospective relief from sanctions is granted.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: August 1, 2024, at Montpelier, Vermont.

<u>s/ Owen Foster, Chair</u>)	
)	
<u>s/ Jessica Holmes</u>)	
)	GREEN MOUNTAIN
<u>s/ Robin Lunge</u>)	CARE BOARD OF
)	VERMONT
<u>s/ David Murman</u>)	
)	
<u>s/ Thom Walsh</u>)	

Filed: August 1, 2024

Attest: s/ Jean Stetter, Administrative Services Director
Green Mountain Care Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Board (by email, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, so that any necessary corrections may be made. (email address: donna.jerry@vermont.gov).