

A public comment has been received 05/20/2024.

Name: Alain Brunet

Town: South Burlington

Affiliation: UVMMC PACU RN

Email:

Topic: OSC Certificate of Need

Comment 5/20/2024 Certificate of need for the OSC (Out Patient Surgical Center) My name is Alain Brunet. I have been a nurse at UVMMC for 17 years, 6 of those in the PACU, or post anesthesia care unit. I work at the main campus as well as at the current Outpatient Surgery Center, Fanny Allen Campus. When I started in 2018, we would have 60-100 cases a day at the main campus, and 20-30 cases a day at the out pt surgical center. Today, we see 50-75 cases at the main campus, and one or two dozen at Fanny. We have also seen recently days where there were less than 10 cases at Fanny. As a bedside nurse, the number of cases is something that impacts my day directly, so I do keep track of it. But no one is more affected than the PACU charge nurse. For this reason, I ran my numbers by 3 of our seasoned charge nurses. They agree with me. We have significantly less cases now than we did 6 years ago. Although I do not have in hand hard data, I stand by those numbers. The number of cases going through PACU is probably one of the strongest data points that you will hear today. As a matter of fact, every case that goes through the OR comes to us, except if they are going to the surgical ICU. And this data is clear: based on numbers alone, we are seeing about 25% less patients today than we did 6 years ago. You will hear a lot of testimonies today. But please keep this one in mind. PACU nurses (the boots on the ground) tell you that our current throughput is running at 75% of its historical capacity. Now if we add some creative initiatives, such as extended hours and better scheduling (currently a lot of peaks and troughs), we can improve our throughput even more.

Post Comment: Yes