



NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

JOSH STEIN • Governor
DEV DUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary
MARK PAYNE • Director, Division of Health Service Regulation

VIA EMAIL ONLY

October 14, 2025

Jeffrey Shovelin
jshoveli@ecuhealth.org

Exempt from Review – Acquisition of Facility

Record #: 4963
Date of Request: October 8, 2025
Facility Name: ECU Health Roanoke Rapids Endoscopy Center f/k/a Halifax Gastroenterology, P.C.
Type of Facility: ASC
FID #: 101141
Acquisition by: Vidant Medical Group, LLC
Business #: 2813
County: Halifax

Dear Mr. Shovelin:

The Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section, Division of Health Service Regulation (Agency) determined that the project described above is exempt from certificate of need (CON) review in accordance with G.S. 131E-184(a)(8). Therefore, the above referenced business may proceed to acquire the health service facility identified above without first obtaining a CON. The Agency’s determination is limited to the question of whether the above referenced business would have to obtain a CON if the current owners of the health service facility do in fact sell it to the business listed above. Note that pursuant to G.S. 131E-181(b): “A recipient of a certificate of need, or any person who may subsequently acquire, in any manner whatsoever permitted by law, the service for which that certificate of need was issued, is required to materially comply with the representations made in its application for that certificate of need.”

If the business listed above does acquire the facility, you should contact the Agency’s Acute and Home Care Licensure and Certification Section to obtain instructions for changing ownership of the existing facility.

It should be noted that this Agency's position is based solely on the facts represented by you and that any change in facts as represented would require further consideration by this Agency and a separate determination regarding whether a certificate of need would be required. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE REGULATION
HEALTHCARE PLANNING AND CERTIFICATE OF NEED SECTION

LOCATION: 809 Ruggles Drive, Edgerton Building, Raleigh, NC 27603
MAILING ADDRESS: 809 Ruggles Drive, 2704 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2704
https://info.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/ • TEL: 919-855-3873

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Jeffrey Shovelin  
October 14, 2025  
Page 2

Sincerely,



Gregory F. Yakaboski  
Project Analyst



Micheala Mitchell  
Chief

cc: Acute and Home Care Licensure and Certification Section, DHR

**From:** [Shovelin, Jeffrey](#)  
**To:** [Yakaboski, Greg](#)  
**Subject:** [External] RE: Question re: the attached exemption request  
**Date:** Thursday, October 9, 2025 11:22:10 AM

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Yes...the name will change to ECU Health Roanoke Rapids Endoscopy Center

Jeff Shovelin  
VP - Business Planning & Strategy  
ECU Health  
PO Box 6028  
Greenville, NC 27835-6028  
Office: (252) 847-3631 / Cell: (252) 714-5156  
[jshoveli@ecuhealth.org](mailto:jshoveli@ecuhealth.org)

**From:** Yakaboski, Greg <greg.yakaboski@dhhs.nc.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 9, 2025 11:15 AM  
**To:** Shovelin, Jeffrey <JShoveli@ecuhealth.org>  
**Subject:** Question re: the attached exemption request

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This message came from outside of ECU Health.

Morning Jeff,

I am handling the attached exemption request.

Question- will the name of the facility stay the same or is the name changing upon completion of the purchase of Halifax Gastroenterology, P.C.

If the name of the facility is changing please let me know.

Thanks,  
Greg

Sincerely,

*Gregory F. Yakaboski*

**Gregory F. Yakaboski**  
Project Analyst  
Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section  
[Division of Health Service Regulation](#)  
[NC Department of Health and Human Services](#)

Office: 919-855-3873

[Greg.Yakaboski@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Greg.Yakaboski@dhhs.nc.gov)

1915 Health Services Way, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

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October 7, 2025

Mr. Greg Yakaboski  
Certificate of Need Section  
Division of Health Service Regulation  
NC Department of Health and Human Services  
2704 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

FILED ELECTRONICALLY

**Re: Notice of Exempt Acquisition of Halifax Gastroenterology, PC / Request for Exemption Status**

Dear Mr. Yakaboski,

On January 12, 2026, Vidant Medical Group, LLC d/b/a ECU Health Community Physicians (EHCP), a wholly owned subsidiary of University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina, Inc. d/b/a/ ECU Health (ECUH), is planning to acquire, through an asset purchase agreement, ownership of Halifax Gastroenterology, PC (HGI), including all equipment owned by HGI. HGI is a single specialty physician practice with a two-room licensed endoscopy center (AS0141) that is located in Roanoke Rapids (Halifax County). Please note, while the legal entity for AS0141 is listed as Prashanti, LLC in State records, through EHMC's due diligence process, it was determined that Prashanti, LLC only owns the building the licensed endoscopy center and physician practice operates in. All healthcare services provided in the building, including licensed endoscopy center services, are actually operated/owned under HGI. EHCP will not acquire the building as part of the asset purchase agreement, but will instead lease the building from Prashanti, LLC.

EHCP believes the transaction is exempt from Certificate of Need (CON) review. Specifically, § 131E-184 states:

- “(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the Department shall exempt from certificate of need review a new institutional health service if it receives prior written notice from the entity proposing the new institutional health service, which notice includes an explanation of why the new institutional health services required, for any of the following:
- (8) To acquire an existing health service facility, including equipment owned by the health service facility at the time of acquisition,

The physician practice/licensed endoscopy center meets the definition of a health service facility since, according to § 131E-176(9b), a “health service facility means a[n]...ambulatory surgical facility.” Therefore, the acquisition of all HGI's assets is exempt from CON review. EHCP is requesting that the CON Section issue a letter determining its acquisition of HGI's physician practice/licensed endoscopy center is exempt from CON review. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (252) 847-3631.

Sincerely,

*Jeffrey Shovelin*

Jeffrey Shovelin  
VP – Business Planning and Strategy  
ECU Health  
PO Box 6028, Greenville NC 27835-6028  
(252)847-3631  
jshoveli@ecuhealth.org

**From:** [Shovelin, Jeffrey](#)  
**To:** [Yakaboski, Greg](#)  
**Cc:** [Stancil, Tiffany C](#)  
**Subject:** [External] ECU Health Community Physicians Exemption Request: GI Endoscopy Center Acquisition  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 8, 2025 8:06:32 AM  
**Attachments:** [Notice of Exempt Acquisition \(Halifax GI\).pdf](#)

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Attached is a request for exempt status for ECU Health Community Physicians to acquire an existing licensed GI endoscopy center. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. Also, please confirm receipt. Thank you!

Jeff Shovelin  
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