



SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

March 19, 2015

DHSR
Raleigh, NC 27699-2712

Re: Southeastern Regional Medical Center's comments on Knowles, Smith and Associates LLPs petition to exempt dedicated pediatric dental surgery operating rooms from the standard methodology for operating rooms (Cumberland/Robeson counties).

Dear Sir/Madam:

In response to the above petition, Southeastern Regional Medical Center (SRMC) would like to address the following inaccuracies in the petition.

- A.) Attachment C: Oral Surgery Procedures by Hospital, by Health Services Area, 2013. Under HSAV, Robeson County, Southeastern Regional Medical Center the number of outpatient oral surgery cases was listed at 653. This figure is in error. SRMC reported on its 2014 Hospital Licensure renewal application 144 cases of oral surgery. The 653 cases refers to the number of orthopedic cases performed and was apparently inadvertently recorded by the petitioners. Also, the numbers reported for New Hanover County, New Hanover Regional Medical Center are incorrect. The numbers reported are twice what New Hanover reported on their Hospital Licensure application. The actual numbers reported by New Hanover were 5 inpatient cases and 844 outpatient cases for a total of 849 cases. It appears the petitioner added the values from New Hanover's aggregate page to the values from the individual facility page resulting in a doubling of the numbers. The numbers reported for Cumberland County, Highsmith-Rainey Specialty Hospital appear to be accurate. It should also be kept in mind that while the petitioner is stating their case for pediatric dental surgery, the numbers cited in Attachment C, are for all oral surgery, both adult and pediatric, without a distinction for the actual number of pediatric cases.
- B.) To reiterate our prior communication, the decision to end the petitioner's dental surgery block time at the hospital was made in the context of trying to effectively manage the number of OR cases in the hospital surgical department during a period of transitioning operating rooms to the new Southeastern Ambulatory Surgery Center. Once this transition has been completed, SRMC will reevaluate the availability of OR times for pediatric dental surgery patients. SRMC did inform the petitioners that even though existing block times were cancelled we would work with the petitioners on an individual basis to accommodate the needs of their patients. In addition, Southeastern Ambulatory Surgery Center is partly owned and operated by SRMC. The Certificate of Need that was issued for Southeastern Ambulatory Surgery Center made no mention of any plans to include pediatric dental surgery among its services and there are no plans to do so.

Thank you for your consideration of this additional information. If I can answer any further questions you may have, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

W. Reid Caldwell, Jr.
Governmental Affairs and
Organizational Policy Officer

WRC:sb