

**Mission Hospital – Talking Points for SHCC Public Hearings
Petition for Special Need Adjustment for Burn Intensive Care Services
in the Western North Carolina Region (HSAs I and V)**

- Introduce yourself, title, and anyone else with you on the video call.
- Thank you for the opportunity to present to the SHCC members and staff for their time today.
- Mission petition is to recognize a need adjustment for 8 Burn ICU beds in Western NC for the *2021 State Medical Facilities Plan* (“2021 SMFP”).
- Background on Mission Hospital
 - 815 licensed beds (733 acute care beds and 82 psychiatric beds)
 - Region’s only Level II trauma center and children’s hospital, providing 30 pediatric sub-specialists.
 - 2019 affiliation with HCA Healthcare
 - HCA background: one of the nation’s leading providers of healthcare and hospital services.
 - HCA opportunities and resources as benefit to Western NC and the surrounding region.
- Through HCA collaboration we learned that numerous residents of Western NC residents are leaving the region and the state each year to seek ICU burn treatment at HCA-affiliate Doctors Hospital of Augusta (“Doctors Hospital”) in Georgia over 180 miles away.
- This has led us to identify a significant access problem for burn patients in Western NC and surrounding areas for which Mission is the closest trauma center.
- Current SMFP draft does not currently recognize additional need for Burn ICU beds beyond the existing beds at UNC and Wake Forest Baptist.

- There are two existing burn care services providers in the state of North Carolina—UNC Hospital (“UNC”) in Orange County and Wake Forest North Carolina Baptist Hospital (“Baptist”) in Forsyth County.
- SMFP burn ICU bed need methodology is based on the utilization of these two programs but does not consider the overall statewide demand for burn services throughout all geographic regions of the state.
- Also, the methodology also reflects 8 Burn ICU beds that were approved in 2012 and have never been implemented, so the low occupancy rate in the plan is reflective of beds that do not exist.
- HCA-affiliate Doctors Hospital operates Joseph M. Still Burn Center, a 70-bed regional comprehensive burn center including 20 ICU beds, serving more than 3,000 patients annually.
 - Nationally recognized as a leader in burn research and treatment caring for the most traumatically injured patients in Georgia and a large multi-state region.
 - Although, several hours away, it is closer for many residents of Mission’s region than Baptist and UNC.
- Severe burn patients are unique, representing one of the most severe types of trauma.
 - Necessitates a full, comprehensive, and integrated continuum of care from the initial trauma response through ICU and stepdown inpatient care, subsequent admission for skin grafts, and extensive follow-up outpatient services.
 - Each step in this continuum is impacted by the current distance to existing providers from the initial trauma transport, through familial support during the initial and subsequent hospitalization, to transportation back and forth for ongoing follow-up care.

- Example:
 - Asheville to Augusta is well over six hours round trip and approaching 400 miles.
 - Asheville to Baptist is over four hours round trip and almost 300 miles.
 - Asheville to UNC is over seven hours round trip and over 400 miles.
- These distances and travel cause an undue hardship on patients and their families during an already difficult time.
- As the region's only Level II trauma provider and a comprehensive provider of tertiary and quaternary care, Mission has the necessary resources and programs to provide high-quality burn care services and to improve access to Western NC residents
 - The CON-regulated Burn ICU beds are the only necessary service limiting Mission's ability to develop a comprehensive burn program to serve Western NC. This is why we are here today to present a petition for the 2021 SMFP to recognize a need for 8 burn ICU beds in Western NC.
- Mission intends to work collaboratively with existing burn care centers in the state to ensure regionalized access to comprehensive burn programs, including Burn ICU beds, is available to *all* North Carolina residents within a reasonable geographic distance.
 - Mission will present extensive analysis in its petition to demonstrate sufficient demand from outmigration from Western NC and surrounding border areas to support 8 ICU beds.
 - There are patients with less extensive burns that do not need burn ICU services but would benefit from the comprehensive burn program that Mission will be able to develop.
- Mission Hospital is the flagship hospital of Mission Health with five affiliated

community and critical access hospitals and an LTAC Hospital. The proposed burn center would provide regional specialty resources to these hospitals spanning all of Western NC.

- Mission recognizes that the SHCC and planning staff have spent many hours reviewing the need for services in NC including Burn ICU services.
 - The need we have identified in is unique and driven by the out-migration of Western NC residents in order to access burn treatment.
 - This need is not captured in the current methodology for Burn ICU beds. As such,
 - Mission believes a special need adjustment is in the best interest of North Carolina residents, particularly residents of Western NC, and is the most appropriate method to address this need.
- We appreciate your time today and are glad to answer any questions that you may have. Thank you!