

Temporary Permission for Program Flexibility and for Emergencies

When the Medical Health Coordination Center (MHCC) is activated, Providers and District Offices (DOs) will submit requests to CHCQDutyOfficer@cdph.ca.gov

This form is to be used ONLY for program flexibility requests when providers temporarily need to comply with licensing requirements by using alternative concepts, methods, procedures, techniques, equipment, or personnel.

Providers are required to submit a program flexibility request to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Center for Health Care Quality for approval. This form is a mechanism to expedite the request directly to the Medical Health Coordination Center (MHCC) for approval in emergency situations.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/DistrictOffices.aspx>

Facility Name

PORTERVILLE CONVALESCENT

Date of Request

7/9/2020

License Number

555658

Facility Phone

5597821509

Facility Fax Number

5593061962

Facility Address

1100 W. MORTON AVENUE

E-Mail Address

City

PORTERVILLE

State

CA

Zip Code

93257

Contact Person's Name

Approval Request

Complete one form total per facility

- Staffing Other
- Tent use (High patient volume) Bed Use
- Space Conversion (other than tent use) Over bedding

Duration of Request

Start Date 7/1/2020

End Date 10/1/2020

Program Flex Request

What regulation are you requesting program flexibility for? 72329.2

Justification for the Request

- A disease outbreak (verifiable through sources such as the local emergency medical service agency (LEMSA), local Public Health Officer, CDPH Division of Communicable Disease Control, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) is present in the community where the hospital is located or in a contiguous area(s) causing a rapid influx (surge) of patients to the hospital. Examples of this type of surge include: Increased cases of seasonal influenza, onset of a severe acute respiratory syndrome-type or other highly contagious virus requiring acute care, an epidemic/pandemic, a bioterrorism agent, or a declared public health emergency.
- An emergency resulting in the need for increased patient accommodations has occurred in the community where the hospital is located or in a contiguous area(s) causing a rapid influx (surge) of patients to the hospital. Examples of this type of surge include: A natural or human-caused disaster, a crime incident or transportation accident resulting in numerous mass casualties, an emergency causing the evacuation of patients or diversions from another hospital (LEMSA diversion has been implemented).

Facility

License Number

Request Date

PORTERVILLE CONVALES

555658

7/9/2020

Justification for the Request

Other:

[Empty text box for justification]

Exhausting Available Alternatives

The provider must exhaust available alternatives before requesting increased patient accommodations. Check all that apply:

- Rescheduling non-emergent surgeries and diagnostic procedures.
- Transferring patients to other beds or discharge as appropriate.
- Setting clinics for non-emergency cases (if possible).
- Requesting ambulance diversion from LEMSA, if appropriate.

Other: [Empty text box]

Adequate Staff, Equipment and Space

The provider must make arrangements for adequate staffing, equipment and space for increased patient accommodations. Check all that apply:

- A plan is in place for staff if the request is for use of alternate space.
- A plan is in place for equipment if the request is for use of alternative space.
- The proposed space for care of patients provides sufficient square footage to ensure access for safe care.

Other: [Empty text box]

Additional Information

Provide a brief description of your conditions and explain the need for program flexibility. Provide a brief description of the alternative concepts, methods, procedures, techniques, equipment or personnel to be used, and the conditions under which this program flexibility will be used. Attach additional supporting documentation as needed.

While we make every attempt to meet the staffing guidelines in 72329.2 it has become increasingly difficult to recruit/hire staff who are willing to work in a COVID-19 positive environment. We have incorporated multiple recruiting methods; including, indeed, face book and contacting educational centers but response is minimal. We have developed staffing incentive programs which include; increased hourly "angel pay" rates, shift incentives, recruitment bonuses and referral bonuses. We have also contracted with a staffing agency as an additional contingency plan. We are utilizing overtime to fill positions as our first response before seeking outside assistance from staff agencies. As we are transitioning to a COVID Recovery Facility additional staffing issues are anticipated.

Administrator

Signature of person requesting program flexibility

Title

Printed Name

NOTE: Approval for tent use, space conversion, bed use and over-bedding will be time limited and dependent on the facts presented that substantiate the emergency. Initial approval may be given verbally by the local DO; however, a signed written approval must be distributed (faxed) to the facility and filed in the facility's folder.

For CDPH Use Only

Center for Health Care Quality Approval:

Permission Granted from: 7/1/2020 to 10/1/2020

Permission Denied: Briefly describe why request was denied in comments / conditions below:

Comments / Conditions:

CHCQ Printed Name:

CHCQ Staff Signature: _____

Date:

L&C District Office Staff Signature

Health Facilities Evaluator Supv

Title

7/22/2020

Date