



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health

MÁS J. ARAGÓN, M.D., Dr.P.H.  
Director and State Public Health Officer



GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor

March 9, 2022

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)  
Providence St. Jude Medical Center  
101 E Valencia Mesa Dr  
Fullerton, CA. 92835

### APPROVAL OF PROGRAM FLEXIBILITY

Dear CEO:

This letter is in response to the request submitted by Providence St. Jude Medical Center for program flexibility for California Code of Regulations Title 22 (CCR) section T22 DIV5 CH1 ART3-70217(a)(9).

The alternative means of compliance with Title 22 CCR section T22 DIV5 CH1 ART3-70217(a)(9) include to use 25 licensed Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds (Beds 7-32) as Step-Down Unit (SOU) beds.

Your request for program flexibility of Title 22 CCR T22 DIV5 CH1 ART3-70217(a)(9) is approved under the following conditions:

1. The designated beds are 7-32 in the North Tower ICU.
2. The hospital must have clear signage designating the area.
3. The hospital must ensure competence of the staff caring for the patients on the unit.
4. The hospital must be in compliance with the requirements outlined in 70217(a)(9) for a step-down unit.
5. The hospital must be in compliance with all other requirements of Section 70217 for the licensed nurse-to-patient ratio.
6. There shall be no ICU patients in this unit.
7. There shall be a mechanism in place to transfer all SOU patients to another medical/surgical unit when the flexed beds be needed for ICU patients.
8. There shall be a mechanism in place to staff this unit as an ICU if the need for an ICU bed exists.
9. If the unit is used for ICU patients at any time during the term of this flexibility approval the approval shall become null and void.

Licensing & Certification, Orange County District Office  
681 South Parker Street, Suite 200, Orange, CA 92868  
(714) 567-2906 TELEPHONE / (714) 567-2815 FAX  
Internet Address: [www.cdph.ca.gov](http://www.cdph.ca.gov)



Either this letter or a true copy thereof shall be posted immediately adjacent to the facility's license.

This approval shall remain in effect from 03/08/2022 until 03/07/2024.

**NOTE:** The Department may revoke the program flexibility if the licensee does not comply with the conditions set forth in the approval or if the department determines the proposed alternative does not adequately meet the intent of the regulations.

If you have any questions, please contact Hang Nguyen at (714) 567-2906 or by email at [Hang.Nguyen@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Hang.Nguyen@cdph.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Hang Nguyen, RN, MSN  
District Manager  
Orange County District Office

HN/mm