

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

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May 6, 2008

Norman Stephens
Chief Executive Officer
Mat-Su Regional Medical Center
2500 S. Woodworth Loop
P.O. Box 1687
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Dear Mr. Stephens:

Thank you for your letter of February 6, 2008 and your supporting documentation describing your facility's intention to expand the scope of care within your cardiac catheterization laboratory.

I have reviewed your plan for emergency transportation to a hospital that provides cardiac surgery and your criteria to screen and assess patient risk as originally requested in my letter to Shawn Strash, Chief Operating Officer, on October 12, 2007. I find these to be appropriate for your facility and the intended services.

In addition to the documentation you have provided I must remind you that under 7 AAC 07.025 (2) Mat-Su Regional Medical Center must also meet the standards and use the methodologies set out in the Department's documents entitled Alaska Certificate of Need Review Standards and Methodologies, dated December 9, 2005. Cardiac Catheterization Services can be found starting on page 26. You can access this document online at:

http://www.hss.state.ak.us/commissioner/healthplanning/cert_of_need/PDFs/FILED%20STANDARDS%2012-12-05%20CON%20Phase%20II%20993-05-0145.pdf

As with other similar facilities that do not have open heart surgery in-house, we require that cardiac catheterization utilization, mortality, outcome, and operating data be provided to the department annually.

This information can be submitted to the Certificate of Need Coordinator, David Pierce, at the end of each calendar year of operation for review by Department staff. The Department will provide you with these data elements and monitoring requirements no later than July 1, 2008.

Please provide written acknowledgement that you will implement these program conditions.

Sincerely,


Karleen K. Jackson, Ph.D.

Commissioner

cc: David Pierce