

November 25, 2013

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Project 13-054, NxStage Oak Brook (the "NxStage Oak Brook application")

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am a practicing nephrologist and faculty member at Saint Luke's Hospital in Chesterfield, Missouri. I am also the medical director of NxStage St. Louis - NxStage's very first dialysis clinic. I submit this letter in support of the NxStage Oak Brook application.

The NxStage St. Louis clinic has the same service model and facility design as the Oak Brook clinic. Like Oak Brook, we focus on home and more frequent dialysis therapies, where medically appropriate. The St. Louis unit is built around its many home hemodialysis (HHD) and peritoneal dialysis (PD) training rooms. In addition, as proposed in the NxStage Oak Brook application, the St. Louis clinic offers 7 in-center stations for respite care, transitional care and more frequent in-center dialysis for those who cannot dialyze in their homes.

Our clinic in St. Louis treated its first patient in July and now has a growing number of patients, including patients on HHD, PD and more frequent in-center dialysis. With regard to this latter group, I believe that the overall patient population that may benefit from more frequent in-center therapy remains underserved, and I have been encouraged by the interest among patients and physicians in this therapy option. In order to build awareness of therapy options other than traditional three times a week in-center therapy, NxStage has committed to a comprehensive public marketing campaign about its clinics and the potential benefits that home and more frequent therapies offer. We have already had two open houses, one for members of the medical community and another for all members of the public. In addition, NxStage will be running advertisement trailers in local movie theaters. I understand that billboards are also being planned.

I believe that for those patients for whom it is medically appropriate, more frequent dialysis allows them to experience significant clinical and quality of life benefits compared to traditional three times a week in-center therapy. By enhancing access to this and other therapy options, I believe that NxStage is empowering patients to develop the best therapy for them and achieve a higher quality of life. I hope you will support the NxStage Oak Brook application.

Sincerely,



Pablo Dayer, MD
Medical Director
NxStage St. Louis