



Health Department and
Community Health Center

Tony Beltran, MBA
Executive Director

Primary Care Services
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Waukegan, Illinois 60085
Phone 847-377-8604
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July 1, 2014

14-025

Dr. Arkan Alrashid
Winchester Endoscopy, LLC
1870 West Winchester Road
Libertyville, Illinois 60048

RECEIVED

JUL 29 2014

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Winchester Endoscopy Center

Dear Dr. Alrashid:

I am writing on behalf of the Lake County Health Department and Community Health Center Primary Care Services (Lake County Health Department) regarding your proposal to provide endoscopy services to up to 50 patients referred by Lake County Health Department annually.

We understand you plan to establish an endoscopy center providing gastroenterology services in Libertyville and would like to develop a relationship with Lake County Health Department through which we would refer up to 50 patients annually to your surgery center and the professional fees and facility fees would be waived for endoscopic procedures, most importantly colonoscopies and **esophagogastroduodenoscopy (or EGD)** procedures, performed at your surgery center. This arrangement would improve access to colonoscopies and EGDs to low-income, uninsured and underinsured residents in Lake County. Colonoscopies provide the most effective means of screening for colorectal cancer and as a result helps prevent one of the most deadly but most easily preventable diseases in the United States. Through this arrangement, Winchester Endoscopy will improve access for low-income patients to these life-saving services.

While certain protocols would need to be established related to patient confidentiality, referral procedures, information flow, etc., it appears such a relationship would be beneficial to our clients.

We support your efforts to establish an endoscopy center in Libertyville and look forward to formalizing our relationship.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Ang, MCRP
Director, Primary Care Services
Lake County Health Department and Community Health
Center



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Village President

Angie Underwood, Chair
Administration / Legislation

July 17, 2014

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Security / Sustainability

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Marc Small
Roads Commissioner / EMA
msmall@longgrove.net

Kathryn J. Olson
Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Winchester Endoscopy Center (Proj. No. 14-025)

Dear Chair Olson:

I am the Village President of the Village of Long Grove, and I am pleased to support Winchester Endoscopy, LLC's proposal to establish an endoscopy center in Libertyville. In learning about this project, I was surprised to learn there is only one endoscopy center in Lake County solely dedicated to gastroenterology. Winchester Endoscopy Center will improve access to endoscopic services, most importantly colonoscopies, to residents of Lake County.

Despite being one of the most easily treated diseases, if detected early, colorectal cancer is the third leading cause of cancer-related death in the United States and the second leading cause of cancer related deaths in Illinois. The American Cancer Society estimates 136,830 people will be diagnosed and 50,310 will die from colorectal cancer in 2014. Colonoscopies are the most effective means of screening for colorectal cancer. Current levels of colorectal cancer screening lag behind those of other effective cancer screening tests. In fact, attaining the goals for population colorectal cancer screening could save 18,880 lives per year. By improving access to colorectal cancer screening, Winchester Endoscopy Center will save lives and considerable expense to the health care system by identifying and treating this condition before it develops into a life threatening condition.

One of the reasons endoscopy services have increased is because the payment policies of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services now cover many preventative services including colorectal cancer screening. Given the strong association between having health insurance and being current on colorectal cancer screening, expanding insurance coverage is a vital first step to decreasing

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Kathryn J. Olson
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Village President

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colorectal cancer deaths. From a public health perspective, we still have a long way to go to reach higher screening rates among our population, and I am hopeful the recent implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) will provide a platform to educate the public on the importance of preventative screening.

Having these procedures performed in a hospital setting would prove more costly, less efficient and less convenient to our residents and the clinical staff. A surgery center dedicated to endoscopy services will allow the referring gastroenterologists to schedule and perform these screening colonoscopies during regular office hours. Further, surgical procedures performed in a surgery center are reimbursed at much lower rates than a hospital setting and result in lower out-of-pocket expenses for patients.

I urge the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve Winchester Endoscopy Center's proposal to establish an endoscopy center in Libertyville.

Sincerely,

Angie Underwood
Village President
Village of Long Grove

Village Administration

David Lothspeich
Village Manager
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Phone 847 377 7200
Fax 847 377 7250

July 18, 2014

Dr. Arkan Alrashid

Winchester Endoscopy, LLC

1870 West Winchester Road

Libertyville, IL 60048

RE: Winchester Endoscopy Service Arrangement

Dear Dr. Alrashid:

I am the Medical Director of Winchester House and I am writing regarding your willingness to provide endoscopy services to residents of Winchester House.

Winchester House is a 200 bed long-term care facility owned and operated by Lake County. As you know, a large number of our residents are low-income. Your proposal to provide endoscopic procedures to residents will improve access to colonoscopies and esophagogastroduodenoscopy (or EGD) procedures for our residents. We understand based on our communications that for these patients, you will waive both the professional fees and facility fees for endoscopic procedures. While Medicare covers colorectal cancer screening as a preventive service, not all of the costs are covered. For example, patients may have to pay for anesthesia or sedation, pathology costs and facility fee, which creates a barrier to screening for low income seniors on a fixed income. Colonoscopies provide the most effective means of screening for colorectal cancer and helps prevent one of the most deadly but most easily preventable diseases in the United States. Through this arrangement, Winchester Endoscopy will improve access to these life-saving services for our residents.

We appreciate the benefit that this proposal will provide to our residents and support your effort to establish an endoscopy center in Libertyville and look forward to formalizing our relationship.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mohina Gupta".

Mohina Gupta, MD

(Medical Director, Winchester House)



owned and operated by Lake County Government



Helping people with developmental disabilities lead productive, happy lives and connecting with the human spirit in us all

July 9, 2014

Dr. Arkan Alrashid
Winchester Endoscopy, LLC
1870 West Winchester Road
Libertyville, Illinois 60048

RE: Winchester Endoscopy Center Service Arrangement

Dear Dr. Alrashid:

I am the President and CEO of Lambs Farm, a non-profit organization serving adults with developmental disabilities. Since 1961, our mission has been to assist our Participants in leading productive, happy lives. In that capacity, I am writing in response to your proposal to provide endoscopy services to individuals receiving services from Lambs Farm.

At Lambs Farm we strive to maintain a vibrant environment for all of our Participants regardless of age, by providing a full array of residential, vocational, and social/recreational services to some 250 adults with developmental disabilities. As all people with developmental disabilities are living longer and fuller lives, we are challenged with providing support for our older Participants that will allow them to age with the dignity they deserve. We understand you plan to establish an endoscopy center providing gastroenterology services in Libertyville and would like to develop a relationship with Lambs Farm through which we would refer Participants to your endoscopy center. We understand both the professional and facility fees would be waived for endoscopic procedures performed at your center, most importantly colonoscopies and esophagogastroduodenoscopy (or EGD) procedures. This arrangement would improve access to colonoscopies and EGDs for our older Participants, important because colonoscopies provide the most effective means of screening for colorectal cancer and as a result help prevent one of the most deadly but most easily preventable diseases in the United States. Through this arrangement, Winchester Endoscopy will improve access to these life-saving services for our Participants.

The vision of the Lambs Farm Co-Founders of seeing people with developmental disabilities grow into active members of society is continually realized by the men and women of Lambs Farm, and we appreciate your willingness to assist our Participants in achieving and maintaining good health. In that regard, we very much support your efforts to establish an endoscopy center in Libertyville and look forward to formalizing our relationship.

Sincerely,


Dianne M. Yaconetti
President and CEO