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Hospital Satellite Distance Standard

This memo provides information about a change in Health Facility Licensing & Certification (“Agency”) distance standard for hospital satellites.

Satellite Definition: Under Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 333-500-0010(46), the Agency defines a satellite as “a building or part of a building owned or leased by a hospital, and operated by a hospital in a geographically separate location from the hospital, with a separate physical address from the hospital but that is within 35 miles of from the hospital...”

Old Distance Standard: The Agency has previously interpreted physical separation as a radial distance of more than 250 yards from the hospital’s main emergency department (ED) doors. Radial distance is measured “as the crow flies.”

New Distance Standard: The Agency will interpret physical separation as a radial distance of more than 250 yards from any exterior wall of the hospital’s main building. Radial distance is still measured “as the crow flies.”

Implementation of New Distance Standard: Hospitals should complete license renewal applications for the 2018 license year using the New Distance Standard.

- Each geographically separate location that is more than 250 yards from any exterior wall of the hospital’s main building will need a completed Satellite Information Form and the satellite license fee in order to receive a Satellite License.
- Each service location located less than 250 yards from any exterior wall of the hospital’s main building will need to be included on the list of on-campus buildings. On-campus buildings are covered by the Hospital License; no satellite license is necessary for these buildings.

For questions about this change contact Anna Davis at 971-673-2950 or anna.l.davis@state.or.us.

If you need this information in an alternate format,
please call our office at (971) 673-0540 or TTY 711.