



STATE OF MARYLAND
DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, MD, Secretary

December 19, 2013

The Honorable Peter A. Hammen, Chairman
House Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: *Mental Hygiene Administration – Psychiatric Bed Registry - Report*

Dear Chairman Hammen:

In response to your letter of April 4, 2013 (see attachment A), the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) respectfully submits this report regarding the psychiatric bed registry.

As you are aware, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS), in cooperation with the Mental Hygiene Administration of the DHMH, the Maryland Hospital Association (MHA) and the Maryland Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians, launched a new Psychiatric Bed Registry (PBR) on November 1, 2012.

The PBR was initiated due to concern that patients entering the emergency departments of Maryland's hospitals for voluntary or involuntary evaluation and treatment met with delays in inpatient placement. Part of this delay was identified as a lack of visibility of the availability of beds at the in-patient psychiatric hospitals. In an effort to improve the placement of psychiatric patients, MIEMSS, MHA and DHMH, in collaboration with Maryland emergency department and psychiatric inpatient hospital staff, developed two new matrices on the secure HC Standard internet tool that supports the Facility Resources Emergency Database (FRED) and the County Hospital Alert and Tracking System (CHATS). These matrices are called the "Psychiatric Bed Registry" (PBR) and the "Emergency Department Psychiatric Patient Information Matrix" (EDPPIM).

MIEMSS developed the PBR to track available inpatient psychiatric beds across the state to make it easier to locate a bed at any given moment. The PBR can also log (in a secure site) de-identified information about every psychiatric patient in Maryland who needs a bed - to make matching of patients to beds easier and to highlight the magnitude of how many psychiatric patients are presenting to hospital emergency departments and who are being managed in real time.

The PBR is designed to have numbers and types of available psychiatric inpatient beds with direct contact numbers to assist emergency department staff in identifying potential placement sites for their ED psychiatric patients. This should reduce the work load on the ED/crisis staff who currently must call around to each of the inpatient psychiatric hospitals to individually identify resource and bed availability. The EDPPIM describes patients who require some form of inpatient psychiatric admission, along with likely resources required to address patient needs. The EDPPIM will also provide a new opportunity for inpatient psychiatric hospitals to see the current demand for beds. The patient information provided is de-identified, ensuring confidentiality in compliance with HIPAA.

Participation in the PBR is voluntary at this time. Despite the potential of these new registries to reduce delays in securing inpatient resources for psychiatric patients presenting to an emergency department, most emergency departments and inpatient psychiatric units have not adopted their use (see attachment B). At this point, the registry has had minimal impact on patient placement, due to lack of participation. As of August 14, 2013, 15% of acute general hospitals and 20% of private psychiatric hospitals were participating in the registries and as of October 31, 2013, those figures were 13% and 26%, respectively.

On August 19, 2013, representatives from MIEMSS, DHMH, MHA, hospital emergency departments, and psychiatric units/hospitals met to discuss the concern of whether the PBR program was meeting the needs of the hospitals. The decision was made to continue to engage the hospitals on a voluntary basis for 6 additional months and to consider discontinuing the program if there was not significantly more voluntary participation. On September 27, 2013, the Department, in collaboration with MIEMSS, sent a memorandum, which included a PBR fact sheet as well as an EDPPIM, to all hospital CEOs and presidents to explain the PBR and to encourage their participation.

During late 2012 and early 2013, seven “Train the Trainer” programs were conducted throughout the state. Three additional hands-on interactive training sessions were scheduled:

- November 14, 2013 in Gaithersburg, MD;
- November 20, 2013 in Williamsport, MD; and
- November 21, 2013 in La Plata, MD.

Additional sites and times are also being scheduled. It is anticipated that there will be increased participation in the PBR once these trainings take place.

The Honorable Peter A. Hammen, Chairman
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Once the additional trainings have taken place, MIEMSS, in cooperation with the Mental Hygiene Administration of the Department, Mental Health Association of Maryland, and the Maryland Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians will be able to better evaluate whether participation in the Registry is a beneficial and feasible tool to facilitate placement of individuals needing inpatient psychiatric care.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Christi Megna, Assistant Director of Governmental Affairs, at (410) 767-6509.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh M. Sharfstein". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D.
Secretary

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Samuel I. Rosenberg
Gayle Jordan-Randolph, MD
Brian Hepburn, MD
Robert Bass, MD
Christi Megna
Pat Gainer
Stacey Diehl
Erin Hopwood

ATTACHMENT A

PETER A. HAMMEN
46th Legislative District
Baltimore City

Chair
Health and Government
Operations Committee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Joshua Sharfstein, MD
Secretary
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
201 West Preston Street
Baltimore, Maryland 20201

April 4, 2013

Secretary Sharfstein,

During the 2013 session, House Bill 1496 – *Mental Hygiene Administration – Psychiatric Bed Registry – Report* was introduced in response to the psychiatric bed registry that went online in November 2013. Specifically, House Bill 1496 requires the Mental Hygiene Administration, in collaboration with the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS), to report to the Health and Government Operations Committee on the progress of implementing and operating the psychiatric bed registry developed by the Administration and MIEMSS. The progress report is required to include: 1) information on the number of acute general hospitals, private psychiatric hospitals, and State facilities that are participating in the registry; 2) the effect of the registry on placement of patients in psychiatric beds; 3) information, based on the usage of the registry, on the adequacy of the State's psychiatric bed capacity; and 4) whether requiring participation in the registry would be a beneficial and feasible tool for the State and for hospitals in facilitating placement of individuals who need inpatient psychiatric care.

Rather than pass House Bill 1496, the Committee is requesting that the Mental Hygiene Administration complete the progress report required by the bill and brief the Committee on its findings prior to the 2014 session. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact committee counsel, Erin Hopwood, at 410-841-3770.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter A. Hammen". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Peter A. Hammen
Chair

Cc: The Honorable Samuel I. Rosenberg
Marie Grant, Government Affairs, DHMH
Pat Gainer, Deputy Director, MIEMSS

ATTACHMENT B

Licensed Psychiatric Beds by Hospital Type: Maryland, FY 2013

Jurisdiction	Hospital	TYPE	Licensed Psychiatric Beds	PBR
Allegany County	Western Maryland Regional Medical Center	Acute Gen	20	Yes
Frederick County	Frederick Memorial Hospital	Acute Gen	21	
Garrett County	Garrett County Memorial Hospital	Acute Gen	0	
Washington County	Meritus Medical Center*	Acute Gen	18	
	Brook Lane Health Services	Private Psych	65	Yes
WESTERN MARYLAND TOTAL PSYCHIATRIC BEDS			124	
Montgomery County	Adventist Behavioral Health Rockville	Private Psych	107	
	Holy Cross Hospital of Silver Spring	Acute Gen	0	Yes
	MedStar Montgomery Medical Center	Acute Gen	25	
	Shady Grove Adventist Hospital	Acute Gen	0	
	Suburban Hospital	Acute Gen	24	
	Washington Adventist Hospital	Acute Gen	40	
MONTGOMERY COUNTY TOTAL PSYCHIATRIC BEDS			196	
Calvert County	Calvert Memorial Hospital	Acute Gen	11	
Charles County	Civista Medical Center	Acute Gen	0	
Prince George's County	Doctors Community Hospital	Acute Gen	0	
	Fort Washington Medical Center	Acute Gen	0	
	Laurel Regional Hospital	Acute Gen	14	
	Prince George's Hospital Center	Acute Gen	28	
	Southern Maryland Hospital Center	Acute Gen	25	
St. Mary's County	MedStar St. Mary's Hospital	Acute Gen	12	
SOUTHERN MARYLAND TOTAL PSYCHIATRIC BEDS			90	
Anne Arundel County	Anne Arundel Medical Center	Acute Gen	0	
	Baltimore Washington Medical Center	Acute Gen	14	Yes
Baltimore City	Bon Secours Hospital	Acute Gen	32	
	James Lawrence Kernan Hospital	Acute Gen	0	
	Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center	Acute Gen	20	Yes
	Maryland General Hospital	Acute Gen	28	
	MedStar Good Samaritan Hospital	Acute Gen	0	
	MedStar Harbor Hospital	Acute Gen	0	Yes
	MedStar Union Memorial Hospital	Acute Gen	26	Yes
	Mercy Medical Center	Acute Gen	0	
	Sinai Hospital of Baltimore	Acute Gen	24	Yes
	St. Agnes Hospital	Acute Gen	0	Yes
	The Johns Hopkins Hospital	Acute Gen	108	
	University of Maryland Hospital	Acute Gen	56	
Baltimore County	Greater Baltimore Medical Center	Acute Gen	0	
	MedStar Franklin Square Hospital	Acute Gen	24	
	Northwest Hospital Center	Acute Gen	14	Yes
	Shepherd & Enoch Pratt Hospital	Special Psych	322	Yes
	St. Joseph Medical Center	Acute Gen	19	
Carroll County	Carroll Hospital Center	Acute Gen	20	
Harford County	Harford Memorial Hospital	Acute Gen	27	Yes
	Upper Chesapeake Medical Center	Acute Gen	0	Yes
Howard County	Howard County General Hospital	Acute Gen	20	
	Sheppard Pratt at Ellicott City	Special Psych	92	Yes
CENTRAL MARYLAND TOTAL PSYCHIATRIC BEDS			846	
Cecil County	Union Hospital of Cecil County	Acute Gen	7	
Dorchester County	Dorchester General Hospital	Acute Gen	16	Yes
	Adventist Behavioral Health Eastern Shore	Special Psych	15	
Kent County	Chester River Hospital Center	Acute Gen	0	
Somerset County	Edward W. McCready Memorial Hospital	Acute Gen	0	
Talbot County	Memorial Hospital at Easton	Acute Gen	0	
Wicomico County	Peninsula Regional Medical Center	Acute Gen	10	
Worcester County	Atlantic General Hospital	Acute Gen	0	
EASTERN SHORE TOTAL PSYCHIATRIC BEDS			48	

Source: Maryland Health Care Commission, Acute Care Hospital Inventory (ACH) FY2013.