NICU Workgroup Meeting

May 14, 2020

Meeting Summary

I. Call to Order

II. Charge 1 – High Flow Nasal Cannula Treatment as Accepted Services for Special Care Nurseries – Review of Survey

The survey related to the use of high flow nasal cannula treatment was sent to all Special Care Nurseries in March, but unfortunately no responses have been received. The survey was created through Survey Monkey and emailed to the contact person on the SCN section of the CON Annual Survey from 2018. The chair of the workgroup asks that participants reach out to the SCN contacts and request participation in the survey. It was reiterated that the survey results will only be used to inform and guide the workgroup discussion on this topic and will not be used punitively.

III. Charge 3 – Telemedicine as an Acceptable Replacement for On-Site Services – Discussion

The workgroup reviewed language provided by the Department to allow for the use of telemedicine by NICUs to provide access to pediatric specialties and subspecialties. The Department also provided two options for the definition of telemedicine. The group agreed to use the definition included in statute which is currently being modified by the Legislature. The workgroup will monitor the definition as it works its way through the legislative process and update the workgroup recommendation accordingly.

The workgroup also affirmed their previous discussion that telemedicine was not applicable to the on-site requirements in the SCN provisions.

IV. Charge 2 – Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome as Accepted Services for SCNs – Review of Revised Draft Language

Following the agreement that telemedicine is not a mechanism for fulfilling on-site requirements for SCNs, the group circled back to the language drafted by the Department to make it clear that Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) with pharmacological intervention and monitoring was a service that could be provided at SCNs. After further discussion and clarification of the fact that by including NAS in the definition of SCN, the standards would be prohibiting well-born nurseries from providing this service. As had been discussed during previous meetings, concern was raised that there are well-born nurseries in rural Michigan providing this service successfully and would be prohibited from doing so in the future if this language was added.

After further discussion, and concerns raised that this language would ultimately limit access to this service unnecessarily, a majority of the group agreed to remove the NAS language form the SCN definition so that all nurseries with the appropriate capabilities, equipment, and staff, will continue to be allowed to provide NAS treatment with pharmacological intervention.

V. Charge 4 – Occupancy Requirements and High Occupancy Provisions for NICU

The workgroup discussed the current high occupancy provision which focuses exclusively on facilities that accept transfers from other NICUs. The group contrasted that with high occupancy provisions in the other standards for hospital, nursing home, and psych bed standards. The workgroup agreed that focusing only on transfers from other NICUs ignores the need of NICUs who have a lot of births within their facility and end up having to transfer babies to other NICUs because the demand at their facility is too high.

A subgroup was formed to explore a new high occupancy provision in line with the other standards and will bring forward language for the workgroup to review at the next meeting in June.

VI. Charge 5 – Minimum NICU Size Exceptions for Rural or Micropolitan Counties

The current standards require a minimum size of 15 NICU beds. However, there are 3 facilities in the State currently with fewer than 15 beds. The group discussed the need for a minimum size, with some members sharing that studies show small NICUs are not best for quality. On the other hand, recognizing the need to differentiate between rural and urban areas of the state when it comes to CON policy.

The workgroup discussed the options of creating a smaller size requirement for NICUs in rural and micropolitan counties as well as language that would give the Department discretion to waive the 15-bed requirement if they felt a smaller sized program was appropriate. The Department expressed some hesitation about the latter as it can create conflict and potential dispute if they disagree with an applicant's claim of need for a smaller program. However, they agreed to draft language for the former (reducing to 10 beds) and discuss the latter internally and with the Attorney General's office prior to the next meeting.

VII. Review of Assignments & Next Steps

The Workgroup agreed to the following assignments/next steps:

- Participants will reach out to their SCN Annual Survey contacts and encourage their participation in the HFNC Survey
- Department will draft language on the reduction of minimum NICU size in rural and micropolitan counties and be prepared to discuss waiver language
- Group will review the definitions of NICU and SCN in the current standards and prepared to discuss charge 6 at the next meeting, in particular the language related to the use of mechanical ventilation and CPAP at SCNs.
- The high occupancy subgroup will draft a recommendation for review

The group agreed to 3 additional meeting dates, if needed – June 4th, July 9th, and August 12th. All will be held at 9:30am virtually (format to be posted on the CON meetings page).

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

CERTIFICATE OF NEED REVIEW (CON) STANDARDS FOR NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE SERVICES/BEDS (NICU) AND SPECIAL NEWBORN NURSING SERVICES

(By authority conferred on the CON Commission by Section 22215 of Act No. 368 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended, and sections 7 and 8 of Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, as amended, being sections 333.22215, 24.207 and 24.208 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.)

Section 1. Applicability

Sec. 1. (1) These standards are requirements for the approval of the initiation, replacement, relocation, expansion, or acquisition of neonatal intensive care services/beds and the delivery of neonatal intensive care services/beds under Part 222 of the Code. Further, these standards are requirements for the approval of the initiation or acquisition of special care nursery (SCN) services. Pursuant to Part 222 of the Code, neonatal intensive care services/beds and special newborn nursing services are covered clinical services. The Department shall use these standards in applying Section 22225(1) of the Code, being Section 333.22225(1) of the Michigan Compiled Laws and Section 22225(2)(c) of the Code, being Section 333.22225(2)(c) of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Section 2. Definitions

Sec. 2. (1) As used in these standards:

(a) "Certificate of Need Commission" or "Commission" means the Commission created pursuant to Section 22211 of the Code, being Section 333.22211 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(b) "Code" means Act No. 368 of the Public Acts of 1978 as amended, being Section 333.1101 et seq. of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(c) "Comparative group" means the applications which have been grouped for the same type of project in the same planning area and are being reviewed comparatively in accordance with the CON rules.

(d) "Department" means the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

(e) "Department inventory of beds" means the current list for each planning area maintained on a continuous basis by the Department of licensed hospital beds designated for NICU services and NICU beds with valid CON approval but not yet licensed or designated.

(f) "Existing NICU beds" means the total number of all of the following:

(i) licensed hospital beds designated for NICU services;

(ii) NICU beds with valid CON approval but not yet licensed or designated;

(ii) NICU beds under appeal from a final decision of the Department; and

(iii) proposed NICU beds that are part of an application for which a proposed decision has been ~~issued, but~~issued but is pending final Department decision.

(g) "Hospital" means a health facility licensed under Part 215 of the Code.

(h) "Infant" means an individual up to 1 year of age.

(i) "Licensed site" means in the case of a single site hospital, the location of the facility authorized by license and listed on that licensee's certificate of licensure; or in the case of a hospital with multiple sites, the location of each separate and distinct inpatient unit of the health facility as authorized by license and listed on that licensee's certificate of licensure.

(j) "Live birth" means a birth for which a birth certificate for a live birth has been prepared and filed pursuant to Section 333.2821(2) of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(k) "Maternal referral service" means having a consultative and patient referral service staffed by a physician(s), on the active medical staff, that is board certified, or eligible to be board certified, in maternal/fetal medicine.

(l) "Medicaid" means title XIX of the social security act, chapter 531, 49 Stat. 620, 1396 to 1396w-5.

(m) "Neonatal intensive care services" or "NICU services" means the provision of any of the following services:

(i) constant nursing care and continuous cardiopulmonary and other support services for severely ill infants;

(ii) care for neonates weighing less than 1,500 grams at birth, and/or less than 32 weeks gestation;

(iii) ventilatory support beyond that needed for immediate ventilatory stabilization;

(iv) surgery and post-operative care during the neonatal period;

(v) pharmacologic stabilization of heart rate and blood pressure; or

(vi) total parenteral nutrition.

(n) "Neonatal intensive care unit" or "NICU" means a specially designed, equipped, and staffed unit of a hospital which is both capable of providing neonatal intensive care services and is composed of licensed hospital beds designated as NICU. This term does not include unlicensed SCN beds.

(o) "Neonatal transport system" means a specialized transfer program for neonates by means of an ambulance licensed pursuant to Part 209 of the Code, being Section 333.20901 et seq.

(p) "Neonate" means an individual up to 28 days of age.

(q) "Perinatal care network," means the providers and facilities within a planning area that provide basic, specialty, and sub-specialty obstetric, pediatric and neonatal intensive care services.

(r) "Planning area" means the groups of counties shown in Appendix B.

(s) "Planning year" means the most recent continuous ~~12-month~~12-month period for which birth data is available from the Vital Records and Health Data Development Section.

(t) "Qualifying project" means each application in a comparative group which has been reviewed individually and has been determined by the Department to have satisfied all of the requirements of Section 22225 of the Code, being Section 333.22225 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and all other applicable requirements for approval in the Code and these standards.

(u) "Relocation of the designation of beds for NICU services" means a change within the same planning area in the licensed site at which existing licensed hospital beds are designated for NICU services.

(v) "Special care nursery services" or “SCN services” means provisions of services for infants with problems that are expected to resolve rapidly and who would not be anticipated to need subspecialty services on an urgent basis. These services include:

(i) Care for infants born greater than or equal to 32 weeks gestation and/or weighing greater than or equal to 1,500grams;

(ii) enteral tube feedings;

(iii) cardio-respiratory monitoring to document maturity of respiratory control or treatment of apnea;

(iv) extended care following an admission to a neonatal intensive care unit for an infant not requiring ventilatory support; or

(v) provide mechanical ventilation FOR A BRIEF DURATION (UP TO 24 HOURS) or continuous positive airway pressure or both~~, for a brief duration (not to exceed 24 hours combined)~~.

Referral to a higher level of care should occur for all infants who need pediatric surgical or medical subspecialty intervention. Infants receiving transitional care or being treated for developmental maturation may have formerly been treated in a neonatal intensive care unit in the same hospital or another hospital. For purposes of these standards, SCN services are special newborn nursing services.

(w) “TELEMEDICINE” MEANS THE USE OF AN ELECTRONIC MEDIA TO LINK PATIENTS WITH HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS IN DIFFERENT LOCATIONS. TO BE CONSIDERED TELEMEDICINE UNDER THIS SECTION, THE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL MUST BE ABLE TO EXAMINE THE PATIENT VIA A SECURE INTERACTIVE AUDIO OR VIDEO, OR BOTH, TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM, AND THE PATIENT'S HEALTH CARE PROVIDER MUST BE

ABLE TO INTERACT WITH THE OFF-SITE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL AT THE TIME THE SERVICES ARE PROVIDED.

(x) "Well newborn nursery services" means providing the following services and does not require a certificate of need:

(i) the capability to perform neonatal resuscitation at every delivery;

(ii) evaluate and provide postnatal care for stable term newborn infants;

(iii) stabilize and provide care for infants born at 35 to 37 weeks' gestation who remain physiologically stable; and

(iv) stabilize newborn infants who are ill and those born less than 35 weeks of gestation until they can be transferred to a higher level of care facility.

(2) The definitions in Part 222 shall apply to these standards.

Section 3. Bed need methodology

Sec. 3. (1) The number of NICU beds needed in a planning area shall be determined by the following formula:

(a) Determine, using data obtained from the Vital Records and Health Data Development Section, the total number of live births which occurred in the planning year at all hospitals geographically located within the planning area.

(b) Determine, using data obtained from the Vital Records and Health Data Development Section, the percent of live births in each planning area and the state that were less than 1,500 grams. The result is the very low birth weight rate for each planning area and the state, respectively.

(c) Divide the very low birth weight rate for each planning area by the statewide very low birth weight rate. The result is the very low birth weight rate adjustment factor for each planning area.

(d) Multiply the very low birth weight rate adjustment factor for each planning area by 0.0045. The result is the bed need formula for each planning area adjusted for the very low birth weight rate.

(e) Multiply the total number of live births determined in subsection (1)(a) by the bed need formula for the applicable planning area adjusted for the very low birth weight adjustment factor as determined in subsection (1)(d).

(2) The result of subsection (1) is the number of NICU beds needed in the planning area for the planning year.

Section 4. Requirements to initiate NICU services

Sec. 4. Initiation of NICU services means the establishment of a NICU at a licensed site that has not had in the previous 12 months a licensed and designated NICU or does not have a valid CON to initiate a NICU. The relocation of the designation of beds for NICU services meeting the applicable requirements of Section 6 shall not be considered as the initiation of NICU services/beds.

(1) An applicant proposing to initiate NICU services by designating hospital beds as NICU beds shall demonstrate each of the following:

(a) There is an unmet bed need of at least 15 NICU beds based on the difference between the number of existing NICU beds in the planning area and the number of beds needed for the planning year as a result of application of the methodology set forth in Section 3.

(b) Approval of the proposed NICU will not result in a surplus of NICU beds in the planning area based on the difference between the number of existing NICU beds in the planning area and the number of beds needed for the planning year resulting from application of the methodology set forth in Section 3.

(c) A unit of at least 15 beds IN A METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA COUNTY OR 10 BEDS IN A RURAL OR MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA COUNTY will be developed and operated. THIS SUBSECTION MAY BE WAIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES, IN ITS

SOLE DISCRETION, THAT A SMALLER UNIT IS NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE TO ASSURE ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE SERVICES.

(d) For each of the 3 most recent years for which birth data are available from the Vital Records and Health Data Development Section, the licensed site at which the NICU is proposed had either: (i) 2,000 or more live births, if the licensed site is located in a metropolitan statistical area county; or (ii) 600 or more live births, if the licensed site is located in a rural or micropolitan statistical area county and is located more than 100 miles (surface travel) from the nearest licensed site that operates or has valid CON approval to operate NICU services.

Section 5. Requirements to replace NICU services

Sec. 5. Replacement of NICU beds means new physical plant space being developed through new construction or newly acquired space (purchase, lease or donation), to house existing licensed and designated NICU beds.

(1) An applicant proposing replacement beds shall not be required to be in compliance with the needed NICU bed supply determined pursuant to Section 3 if an applicant demonstrates all of the following:

(a) the project proposes to replace an equal or lesser number of beds designated by an applicant for NICU services at the licensed site operated by the same applicant at which the proposed replacement beds are currently located; and

(b) the proposed licensed site is in the same planning area as the existing licensed site and in the area set forth in Section 22229 of the Code, being Section 333.22229 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, in which replacement beds in a hospital are not subject to comparative review.

Section 6. Requirements for approval to relocate NICU beds

Sec. 6. An applicant proposing to relocate the designation for NICU services shall demonstrate compliance with all of the following:

(1) The applicant is the licensed site to which the relocation of the designation of beds for NICU services is proposed.

(2) The applicant shall provide a signed written agreement that provides for the proposed increase, and concomitant decrease, in the number of beds designated for NICU services at the 2 licensed sites involved in the proposed relocation. A copy of the agreement shall be provided in the application.

(3) The existing licensed site from which the designation of beds for NICU services proposed to be relocated is currently licensed and designated for NICU services.

(4) The proposed project does not result in an increase in the number of beds designated for NICU services in the planning area unless the applicable requirements of Section 4 or 5 have also been met.

(5) The proposed project does not result in an increase in the number of licensed hospital beds at the applicant licensed site unless the applicable requirements of the CON Review Standards for Hospital Beds have also been met.

(6) The proposed project does not result in the operation of a NICU of less than 15 beds at the existing licensed site from which the designation of beds for NICU services are proposed to be relocated.

(7) If the applicant licensed site does not currently provide NICU services, an applicant shall demonstrate both of the following:

(a) the proposed project involves the establishment of a NICU of at least 15 beds; and

(b) for each of the 3 most recent years for which birth data are available from the Vital Records and Health Data Development Section, the applicant licensed site had either: (i) 2,000 or more live births, if the licensed site is located in a metropolitan statistical area county; or (ii) 600 or more live births, if the licensed site is located in a rural or micropolitan statistical area county and is located more than 100 miles from the nearest licensed site that operates or has valid CON approval to operate NICU services/beds. If the applicant licensed site has not been in operation for at least 3 years and the obstetrical unit at the applicant licensed site was established as the result of the consolidation and closure of 2 or more obstetrical units, the combined number of live births from the obstetrical units that were closed and relocated to the applicant licensed site may be used to evaluate compliance with this requirement for those years when the applicant licensed site was not in operation.

(8) If the applicant licensed site does not currently provide NICU services or obstetrical services, an applicant shall demonstrate both of the following:

(a) the proposed project involves the establishment of a NICU of at least 15 beds; and

(b) the applicant has a valid CON to establish an obstetrical unit at the licensed site at which the NICU is proposed. The obstetrical unit to be established shall be the result of the relocation of an existing obstetrical unit that for each of the 3 most recent years for which birth data are available from the Vital Records and Health Data Development Section, the obstetrical unit to be relocated had either: (i) 2,000 or more live births, if the obstetrical unit to be relocated is located in a metropolitan statistical area county; or (ii) 600 or more live births, if the obstetrical unit to be relocated is located in a rural or micropolitan statistical area county and is located more than 100 miles from the nearest licensed site that operates or has valid CON approval to operate NICU services.

(9) The project results in a decrease in the number of licensed hospital beds that are designated for NICU services at the licensed site at which beds are currently designated for NICU services. The decrease in the number of beds designated for NICU services shall be equal to or greater than the number of beds designated for NICU services proposed to be increased at the applicant's licensed site pursuant to the agreement required by this subsection. This subsection requires a decrease in the number of licensed hospital beds that are designated for NICU ~~services, but~~services but does not require a decrease in the number of licensed hospital beds.

(10) Beds approved pursuant to Section 7(2) shall not be relocated pursuant to this section, unless the proposed project involves the relocation of all beds designated for NICU services at the applicant's licensed site.

Section 7. Requirements for approval to expand NICU services

Sec. 7. (1) An applicant proposing to expand NICU services at a licensed site by designating additional hospital beds as NICU beds in a planning area shall demonstrate that the proposed increase will not result in a surplus of NICU beds based on the difference between the number of existing NICU beds in the planning area and the number of beds needed for the planning year resulting from application of the methodology set forth in Section 3.

(2) An applicant may apply and be approved for NICU beds in excess of the number determined as needed for the planning year in accordance with Section 3 if an applicant can demonstrate that it provides NICU services to patients transferred from another licensed and designated NICU. The maximum number of NICU beds that may be approved pursuant to this subsection shall be determined in accordance with the following:

(a) An applicant shall document the average annual number of patient days provided to neonates or infants transferred from another licensed and designated NICU, for the 2 most recent years for which verifiable data are available to the Department.

(b) The average annual number of patient days determined in accordance with subsection (a) shall be divided by 365 (or 366 for a leap year). The result is the average daily census (ADC) for NICU services provided to patients transferred from another licensed and designated NICU.

(c) Apply the ADC determined in accordance with subsection (b) in the following formula: ADC + 2.06 √ADC. The result is the maximum number of beds that may be approved pursuant to this subsection.

Section 8. Requirements for approval to acquire a NICU service

Sec. 8. Acquisition of a NICU means obtaining possession and control of existing licensed hospital beds designated for NICU services by contract, ownership, lease or other comparable arrangement.

(1) An applicant proposing to acquire a NICU shall not be required to be in compliance with the needed NICU bed supply determined pursuant to Section 3 for the planning area in which the NICU subject to the proposed acquisition is located, if the applicant demonstrates that all of the following are met:

(a) the acquisition will not result in an increase in the number of hospital beds, or hospital beds designated for NICU services, at the licensed site to be acquired;

(b) the licensed site does not change as a result of the acquisition, unless the applicant meets Section 6; and,

(c) the project does not involve the initiation, expansion or replacement of a covered clinical service, a covered capital expenditure for other than the proposed acquisition or a change in bed capacity at the applicant facility, unless the applicant meets other applicable sections.

Section 9. Requirements to initiate, acquire, or replace SCN services

Sec. 9. An applicant proposing SCN services shall demonstrate each of the following, as applicable, by verifiable documentation:

(1) All applicants shall demonstrate the following:

(a) A ~~board-certified~~board-certified neonatologist serving as the program director.

(b) The hospital has the following capabilities and personnel continuously available and on-site:

(i) the ability to provide mechanical ventilation FOR A BRIEF DURATION (UP TO 24 HOURS) and/or continuous positive airway pressure ~~for up to 24 hours;~~

(ii) portable x-ray equipment and blood gas analyzer;

(iii) pediatric physicians and/or neonatal nurse practitioners; and

(iv) respiratory therapists, radiology technicians, laboratory technicians and specialized nurses with experience caring for premature infants.

(2) Initiation of SCN services means the establishment of an SCN at a licensed site that has not had in the previous 12 months a designated SCN or does not have a valid CON to initiate an SCN.

(a) In addition to the requirements of Section 9(1), an applicant proposing to initiate an SCN service shall have a written consulting agreement with a hospital which has an existing, operational NICU. The agreement must specify that the existing service shall, for the first two years of operation of the new service, provide the following services to the applicant hospital:

(i) receive and make recommendations on the proposed design of SCN and support areas that may be required;

(ii) provide staff training recommendations for all personnel associated with the new proposed service;

(iii) assist in developing appropriate protocols for the care and transfer, if necessary, of premature infants;

(iv) provide recommendations on staffing needs for the proposed service; and

(v) work with the medical staff and governing body to design and implement a process that will annually measure, evaluate, and report to the medical staff and governing body the clinical outcomes of the new service, including:

(A) mortality rates;

(B) morbidity rates including intraventricular hemorrhage (grade 3 and 4), retinopathy of prematurity (stage 3 and 4), chronic lung disease (oxygen dependency at 36 weeks gestation), necrotizing enterocolitis, pneumothorax, neonatal depression (~~apgar~~Apgar score of less than 5 at five minutes); and

(C) infection rates.

(b) SCN services shall be provided in unlicensed SCN beds located within the hospital obstetrical department or NICU service. Unlicensed SCN beds are not included in the NICU bed need.

(3) Replacement of SCN services means new physical plant space being developed through new construction or newly acquired space (purchase, lease or donation), to house an existing SCN service.

(a) In addition to the requirements of Section 9(1), an applicant proposing a replacement SCN service shall demonstrate all of the following:

(i) The proposed project is part of an application to replace the entire hospital.

(ii) The applicant currently operates the SCN service at the current licensed site.

(iii) The proposed licensed site is in the same planning area as the existing licensed site.

(4) Acquisition of an SCN service means obtaining possession and control of an existing SCN service by contract, ownership, lease or other comparable arrangement.

(a) In addition to the requirements of Section 9(1), an applicant proposing to acquire an SCN service shall demonstrate all of the following:

(i) The proposed project is part of an application to acquire the entire hospital.

(ii) The licensed site does not change as a result of the acquisition, unless the applicant meets subsection 3.

Section 10. Additional requirements for applications included in comparative reviews.

Sec. 10. (1) Any application subject to comparative review under Section 22229 of the Code, being Section 333.22229 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, or under these standards, shall be grouped and reviewed comparatively with other applications in accordance with the CON rules.

(2) Each application in a comparative review group shall be individually reviewed to determine whether the application has satisfied all the requirements of Section 22225 of the Code, being Section 333.22225(1) of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and all other applicable requirements for approval in the Code and these standards. If the Department determines that one or more of the competing applications satisfies all of the requirements for approval, these projects shall be considered qualifying projects. The Department shall approve those qualifying projects which, taken together, do not exceed the need, as defined in Section 22225(1), and which have the highest number of points when the results of subsection (2) are totaled. If 2 or more qualifying projects are determined to have an identical number of points, the Department shall approve those qualifying projects which, taken together, do not exceed the need, as defined in Section 22225(1), which are proposed by an applicant that operates a NICU at the time an application is submitted to the Department. If 2 or more qualifying projects are determined to have an identical number of points and each operates a NICU at the time an application is submitted to the Department, the Department shall approve those qualifying projects which, taken together, do not exceed the need, as defined in Section 22225(1), in the order in which the applications were received by the Department, based on the submission date and time, as determined by the Department when submitted.

(a) A qualifying project will have points awarded based on the geographic proximity to NICU services, both operating and CON approved but not yet operational, in accordance with the following schedule:

Proximity	Points Awarded
Less than 50 Miles to NICU service	0
Between 50-99 miles to NICU service	1
100+ Miles to NICU service	2

(b) A qualifying project will have points awarded based on the number of very low birth weight infants delivered at the applicant hospital or the number of very low birth weight infants admitted or refused admission due to the lack of an available bed to an applicant's NICU, and the number of very low birth weight infants delivered at another hospital subsequent to the transfer of an expectant mother from an applicant hospital to a hospital with a NICU. The total number of points to be awarded shall be the number of qualifying projects. The number of points to be awarded to each qualifying project shall be calculated as follows:

(i) Each qualifying project shall document, for the 2 most recent years for which verifiable data are available, the number of very low birth weight infants delivered at an applicant hospital, or admitted to an applicant's NICU, if an applicant operates a NICU, the number of very low birth weight infants delivered to expectant mothers transferred from an applicant's hospital to a hospital with a NICU, and the number of very low birth weight infants referred to an applicant's NICU who were refused admission due to the lack of an available NICU bed and were subsequently admitted to another NICU.

(ii) Total the number of very low birth weight births and admissions documented in subdivision (i) for all qualifying projects.

(iii) Calculate the fraction (rounded to 3 decimal points) of very low birth weight births and admissions that each qualifying project's volume represents of the total calculated in subdivision (ii).

(iv) For each qualifying project, multiply the applicable fraction determined in subdivision (iii) by the total possible number of points.

(v) Each qualifying project shall be awarded the applicable number of points calculated in subdivision (iv).

(c) An applicant shall have 1 point awarded if it can be demonstrated that on the date an application is submitted to the Department, the licensed site at which NICU services/beds are proposed has on its active medical staff a physician(s) board certified, or eligible to be certified, in maternal/fetal medicine.

(d) A qualifying project will have points awarded based on the percentage of the hospital's indigent volume as set forth in the following table.

Hospital Indigent Volume	Points Awarded
0 - <6%	0.2
6 - <11%	0.4
11 - <16%	0.6
16 - <21%	0.8
21 - <26%	1.0
26 - <31%	1.2
31 - <36%	1.4
36 - <41%	1.6
41 - <46%	1.8
46% +	2.0

For purposes of this subsection, indigent volume means the ratio of a hospital's indigent charges to its total charges expressed as a percentage as determined by the Hospital and Health Plan Reimbursement Division pursuant to Section 7 of the Medical Provider manual. The indigent volume data being used for rates in effect at the time the application is deemed submitted will be used by the Department in determining the number of points awarded to each qualifying project.

(3) Submission of conflicting information in this section may result in a lower point reward. If an application contains conflicting information which could result in a different point value being awarded in this section, the Department will award points based on the lower point value that could be awarded from conflicting information. For example, if submitted information would result in 6 points being awarded, but other conflicting information would result in 12 points being awarded, then 6 points will be awarded. If the conflicting information does not affect the point value, the Department will award points accordingly. For example, if submitted information would result in 12 points being awarded and other conflicting information would also result in 12 points being awarded, then 12 points will be awarded.

Section 11. Requirements for Medicaid participation

Sec. 11. An applicant for NICU services and SCN services shall provide verification of Medicaid participation. An applicant that is a new provider not currently enrolled in Medicaid shall certify that proof of Medicaid participation will be provided to the Department within six (6) months from the offering of services if a CON is approved.

Section 12. Project delivery requirements and terms of approval

Sec. 12. An applicant shall agree that, if approved, the NICU and SCN services shall be delivered in compliance with the following terms of approval:

(1) Compliance with these standards.

(2) Compliance with the following applicable quality assurance standards for NICU services:

(a) An applicant shall coordinate its services with other providers of obstetrical, perinatal, neonatal and pediatric care in its planning area, and other planning areas in the case of highly specialized services.

(b) An applicant shall develop and maintain a follow-up program for NICU graduates and other infants with complex problems. An applicant shall also develop linkages to a range of pediatric care for high-risk infants to ensure comprehensive and early intervention services.

(c) If an applicant operates a NICU that admits infants that are born at a hospital other than the applicant hospital, an applicant shall develop and maintain an outreach program that includes both case-finding and social support which is integrated into perinatal care networks, as appropriate.

(d) If an applicant operates a NICU that admits infants that are born at a hospital other than the applicant hospital, an applicant shall develop and maintain a neonatal transport system.

(e) An applicant shall coordinate and participate in professional education for perinatal and pediatric providers in the planning area.

(f) An applicant shall develop and implement a system for discharge planning.

(g) A ~~board-certified~~board-certified neonatologist shall serve as the director of neonatal services.

(h) An applicant shall make provisions for on-site OR BY PREARRANGED CONSULTATIVE AGREEMENTS physician consultation services in at least the following neonatal/pediatric specialties: cardiology, ophthalmology, surgery and neurosurgery. PREARRANGED CONSULTATIVE AGREEMENTS CAN BE PERFORMED BY USING TELEMEDICINE TECHNOLOGY AND/OR TELEPHONE CONSULTATION FROM A DISTANT LOCATION.

(i) An applicant shall develop and maintain plans for the provision of highly specialized neonatal/pediatric services, such as cardiac surgery, cardiovascular surgery, neurology, hematology, orthopedics, urology, otolaryngology and genetics.

(j) An applicant shall develop and maintain plans for the provision of transferring infants discharged from its NICU to another hospital, as necessary for the care of an infant no longer requiring NICU services but unable to be discharged home.

(3) Compliance with the following applicable quality assurance standards for SCN services:

(a) An applicant shall coordinate its services with other providers of obstetrical, perinatal, neonatal and pediatric care in its planning area, and other planning areas in the case of highly specialized services.

(b) An applicant shall develop and implement a system for discharge planning.

(c) A ~~board-certified~~board-certified neonatologist shall serve as the SCN program director.

(d) The hospital continues to have the following capabilities and personnel continuously available and on-site:

(i) The ability to provide mechanical ventilation FOR A BRIEF DURATION (UP TO 24 HOURS) and/or continuous positive airway pressure ~~for up to 24 hours~~;

(ii) portable x-ray equipment and blood gas analyzer;

(iii) pediatric physicians and/or neonatal nurse practitioners; and

(iv) respiratory therapists, radiology technicians, laboratory technicians and specialized nurses with experience caring for premature infants.

(4) Compliance with the following access to care requirements:

(a) The NICU and SCN services shall participate in Medicaid at least 12 consecutive months within the first two years of operation and continue to participate annually thereafter.

(b) The NICU and SCN services shall not deny NICU and SCN services to any individual based on ability to pay or source of payment.

(c) The NICU and SCN services shall provide NICU and SCN services to any individual based on clinical indications of need for the services.

(d) The NICU and SCN services shall maintain information by payor and non-paying sources to indicate the volume of care from each source provided annually.

(e) Compliance with selective contracting requirements shall not be construed as a violation of this term.

(5) Compliance with the following monitoring and reporting requirements:

(a) The NICU and SCN services shall participate in a data collection network established and administered by the Department or its designee. The data may include, but is not limited to, annual budget and cost information, operating schedules, through-put schedules, and demographic, diagnostic, morbidity and mortality information, as well as the volume of care provided to patients from all payor sources. The applicant shall provide the required data on a separate basis for each licensed site; in a format established by the Department; and in a mutually agreed upon media. The Department may elect to verify the data through on-site review of appropriate records.

(i) The SCN services shall provide data for the percentage of transfers to a higher level of care, hours of life at the time of transfer to a higher level of care, admissions to the SCN at less than 32 weeks gestation, number of admissions requiring respiratory support greater than 24 hours in duration, number of admissions to SCN, and rates of morbidity including: intraventricular hemorrhage (grade 3 and 4), retinopathy of prematurity (stage 3 and 4), chronic lung disease (oxygen dependency at 36 weeks gestation), necrotizing enterocolitis, and pneumothorax.

(b) The NICU and SCN services shall provide the Department with timely notice of the proposed project implementation consistent with applicable statute and promulgated rules.

(6) The agreements and assurances required by this section shall be in the form of a certification agreed to by the applicant or its authorized agent.

Section 13. Department inventory of beds

Sec. 13. The Department shall maintain a listing of the Department inventory of beds for each planning area.

Section 14. Effect on prior CON review standards; comparative reviews

Sec. 14. (1) These CON review standards supercede and replace the CON Review Standards for Neonatal Intensive Care Services/Beds approved by the Commission on September ~~25~~21, ~~2014~~ 2016 and effective on December ~~22~~9, ~~2014~~2016.

(2) Projects reviewed under these standards shall be subject to comparative review except for:

(a) Replacement beds meeting the requirements of Section 22229(3) of the Code, being Section 333.22229(3) of the Michigan Compiled Laws;

(b) The designation of beds for NICU services being relocated pursuant to Section 6 of these standards; or

(c) Beds requested under Section 7(2).

(d) SCN services requested under Section 9.

APPENDIX A

Rural Michigan counties are as follows:

Alcona	Gogebic	Ogemaw
Alger	Huron	Ontonagon
Antrim	Iosco	Osceola
Arenac	Iron	Oscoda
Baraga	Lake	Otsego
Charlevoix	Luce	Presque Isle
Cheboygan	Mackinac	Roscommon
Clare	Manistee	Sanilac
Crawford	Montmorency	Schoolcraft
Emmet	Newaygo	Tuscola
Gladwin	Oceana	

Micropolitan statistical area Michigan counties are as follows:

Allegan	Hillsdale	Mason
Alpena	Houghton	Mecosta
Benzie	Ionia	Menominee
Branch	Isabella	Missaukee
Chippewa	Kalkaska	St. Joseph
Delta	Keweenaw	Shiawassee
Dickinson	Leelanau	Wexford
Grand Traverse	Lenawee	
Gratiot	Marquette	

Metropolitan statistical area Michigan counties are as follows:

Barry	Jackson	Muskegon
Bay	Kalamazoo	Oakland
Berrien	Kent	Ottawa
Calhoun	Lapeer	Saginaw
Cass	Livingston	St. Clair
Clinton	Macomb	Van Buren
Eaton	Midland	Washtenaw
Genesee	Monroe	Wayne
Ingham	Montcalm	

Source:

75 F.R., p. 37245 (June 28, 2010)
Statistical Policy Office
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
United States Office of Management and Budget

APPENDIX B

The planning areas for neonatal intensive care services/beds are the geographic boundaries of the group of counties as follows:

Planning Areas	Counties
1	Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, Wayne
2	Clinton, Eaton, Hillsdale, Ingham, Jackson, Lenawee
3	Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Van Buren
4	Allegan, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mason, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa
5	Genesee, Lapeer, Shiawassee
6	Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Iosco, Isabella, Midland, Mecosta, Ogemaw, Osceola, Oscoda, Saginaw, Sanilac, Tuscola
7	Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Crawford, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Montmorency, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon, Wexford
8	Alger, Baraga, Chippewa, Delta, Dickinson, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette, Menominee, Ontonagon, Schoolcraft

DRAFT NICU HIGH OCCUPANCY LANGUAGE

Section 7. Requirements for approval to expand NICU services

Sec. 7. (1) An applicant proposing to expand NICU services at a licensed site by designating additional hospital beds as NICU beds in a planning area, EXCEPT AN APPLICANT MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (2), shall demonstrate that the proposed increase will not result in a surplus of NICU beds based on the difference between the number of existing NICU beds in the planning area and the number of beds needed for the planning year resulting from application of the methodology set forth in Section 3.

(2) An applicant may apply and be approved TO EXPAND NICU SERVICES AT A LICENSED SITE BY DESIGNATING ADDITIONAL HOSPITAL BEDS AS NICU BEDS in excess of the number determined as needed for the planning year in accordance with Section 3 if an applicant can demonstrate ALL OF THE FOLLOWING SUBSECTIONS ARE MET ~~that it provides NICU services to patients transferred from another licensed and designated NICU~~. FURTHER, AN APPLICANT PROPOSING TO ADD NICU BEDS SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE BED NEED METHODOLOGY IF THE APPLICATION MEETS ALL OTHER APPLICABLE CON REVIEW STANDARDS AND AGREES AND ASSURES TO COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE PROJECT DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS. ~~The maximum number of NICU beds that may be approved pursuant to this subsection shall be determined in accordance with the following:~~

(a) THE PROPOSED NICU BEDS ARE BEING ADDED AT THE EXISTING LICENSED SITE ~~An applicant shall document the average annual number of patient days provided to neonates or infants transferred from another licensed and designated NICU, for the 2 most recent years for which verifiable data are available to the Department.~~

(b) The EXISTING NICU BEDS HAVE OPERATED AT AN OCCUPANCY RATE OF 80 PERCENT OR ABOVE FOR THE PREVIOUS, CONSECUTIVE 24 MONTHS BASED ON ITS LICENSED AND APPROVED NICU BED CAPACITY. THE OCCUPANCY RATE SHALL BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

(I) CALCULATE THE ~~average annual~~ number of patient days PROVIDED TO NEONATES IN THE APPLICANT'S EXISTING NICU BEDS FOR THE MOST RECENT, CONSECUTIVE 24 MONTHS FOR WHICH VERIFIABLE DATA ARE AVAILABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT.

(II) DIVIDE THE NUMBER CALCULATED IN (I) ABOVE BY THE TOTAL POSSIBLE PATIENT DAYS [EXISTING LICENSED AND APPROVED NICU BEDS MULTIPLIED BY 730 (OR 731 IF INCLUDING A LEAP YEAR)]. THIS IS THE OCCUPANCY RATE.~~determined in accordance with subsection (a) shall be divided by 365 (or 366 for a leap year). The result is the average daily census (ADC) for NICU services provided to patients transferred from another licensed and designated NICU.~~

(c) THE NUMBER OF NICU BEDS THAT MAY BE APPROVED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE THE NUMBER OF NICU BEDS NECESSARY TO REDUCE THE OCCUPANCY RATE FOR THE NICU TO 70 PERCENT. THE NUMBER OF NICU BEDS TO BE ADDED SHALL BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS: ~~Apply the ADC determined in accordance with subsection (b) in the following formula: ADC + 2.06 √ADC. The result is the maximum number of beds that may be approved pursuant to this subsection.~~

(I) DIVIDE THE NUMBER OF PATIENT DAYS CALCULATED IN SUBSECTION (B)(I) BY .70 TO DETERMINE LICENSED NICU BED DAYS AT 70 PERCENT OCCUPANCY.

(II) DIVIDE THE RESULT OF STEP (C)(I) BY 730 (OR 731 IF INCLUDING A LEAP YEAR) AND ROUND THE RESULT UP TO THE NEXT WHOLE NUMBER.

(III) SUBTRACT THE NUMBER OF EXISTING NICU BED DESIGNATIONS AS DOCUMENTED ON THE "DEPARTMENT INVENTORY OF NICU BEDS" FROM THE RESULT OF STEP (C)(II) AND ROUND THE RESULT UP TO THE NEXT WHOLE NUMBER TO DETERMINE THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF BEDS THAT MAY BE APPROVED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION. IF THE RESULT IS LESS THAN 5 BEDS, THE APPLICANT MAY BE APPROVED FOR UP TO 5 BEDS.

(D) A NICU THAT HAS RELOCATED NICU BEDS, AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THESE STANDARDS, SHALL NOT BE APPROVED FOR NICU BEDS UNDER THIS SUBSECTION FOR FIVE YEARS FROM THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE RELOCATION OF BEDS.

(E) APPLICANTS PROPOSING TO ADD NICU BEDS UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO COMPARATIVE REVIEW.