



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
Inter-Departmental Correspondence  
Health System



**Date:** January 26, 2015  
**Board Meeting Date:** March 17, 2015  
**Special Notice / Hearing:** None  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**From:** Jean S. Fraser, Chief, Health System  
Susan Ehrlich, MD, MPP, Chief Executive Officer, San Mateo Medical Center

**Subject:** Medical Services Agreement between the County of San Mateo, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals DBA Kaiser Permanente Redwood City Medical Center, The Permanente Medical Group, Inc., and San Mateo Health Commission DBA Health Plan of San Mateo

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution authorizing a medical services agreement between County of San Mateo, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals DBA Kaiser Permanente Redwood City Medical Center, The Permanente Medical Group, Inc., and San Mateo Health Commission DBA Health Plan of San Mateo, for cranial neurosurgical services, for the term of November 1, 2014 through October 31, 2017.

**BACKGROUND:**

Kaiser Foundation Hospitals DBA Kaiser Permanente Redwood City Medical Center and Permanente Medical Group, Inc. (Kaiser) operates a Community Benefit program that provides more than \$1 billion per year to charity care, safety net partnerships, knowledge dissemination, and community health initiatives. This agreement is part of Kaiser's Community Benefit program to provide emergency neurological services at San Mateo Medical Center (SMMC).

SMMC has neurologists who provide expert diagnosis and non-surgical treatment of nervous system disorders. However, SMMC has only one neurosurgeon available to provide surgery services. When that surgeon is unavailable, SMMC has relied on Kaiser to provide emergency coverage for neurosurgery. Kaiser has been providing these services since 2011.

**DISCUSSION:**

Kaiser has agreed to continue to provide cranial neurosurgical services for patients who present at SMMC's Emergency Department at no charge to SMMC when an SMMC surgeon is not available. Neurosurgery of a non-emergent nature will be scheduled and provided at SMMC. This agreement is late due to protracted negotiations with the contractor.

The Health Plan of San Mateo (HPSM) is a party to this agreement because HPSM patients who would normally receive neurosurgery services at SMMC may be treated by Kaiser in an emergency (as explained above).

County Administrative Memorandum B-1 provides that contracts for physicians are exempt from the Request for Proposals process.

The Resolution contains the County's standard provisions allowing amendment of the County's fiscal obligation by a maximum of \$25,000 (in aggregate).

The agreement and Resolution have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form.

This Agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by providing access to emergency cranial neurological surgery services to residents of San Mateo County. It is anticipated that 100% of all cranial neurological surgery cases presented to the Emergency Department will be transferred to Kaiser for treatment.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURE:**

Measure	FY 2013-14 Actual	FY 2014-15 Projected
Percentage of emergency cranial neurological surgery cases referred Kaiser that are accepted by Kaiser	100%	100%

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The term of this agreement is November 1, 2014 through October 31, 2017. There is no cost associated with this agreement.

Expenses at SMMC are covered by fees for services or third-party payors whenever possible. The portion of expenses for services provided to the medically indigent or to those covered by programs that do not fully meet the costs of care is covered by the County General Fund contribution to SMMC, and are within the existing annual appropriation.