



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Health System



Date: August 27, 2013
Board Meeting Date: October 1, 2013
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: Amendment to the Agreement with Daniel Buckley, MD

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing an amendment to the agreement with Daniel Buckley, MD to provide ophthalmology services, increasing the amount by \$60,000 to an amount not to exceed \$442,050.

BACKGROUND:

Dr. Daniel Buckley has provided professional ophthalmology services at San Mateo Medical Center (SMMC) for well over twenty years. The County's need for ophthalmology services continues to increase as its patient population ages. Dr. Buckley continues to help meet that need by treating patients in the clinic and by providing eye surgery.

DISCUSSION:

There continues to be a backlog in the number of patients waiting for eye surgery. One reason for the backlog is a shortage of optometrists. Optometrists screen patients before referring them to the ophthalmologist so that only those who really need the services of an ophthalmologist, such as those requiring eye surgery, are referred. However, with the current backlog of 485 patients waiting to see optometrists, primary care physicians refer directly to the ophthalmologists. This requires the ophthalmologists to often spend time seeing patients who should have been seen by an optometrist.

In order to address the continuing backlog of patients requiring surgery, Dr. Buckley has increased the number of clinic and surgery blocks he provides on a monthly basis. By doing so, Dr. Buckley has reduced the number of patients waiting for eye surgery. An

increase in the contract amount is needed to ensure sufficient funds through the end of the contract term on August 31, 2014.

The amendment and Resolution have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form. The contractor meets insurance certification requirements.

The Contractor has assured compliance with the County's Contractor Employee Jury Service Ordinance, as well as all other contract provisions that are required by County ordinance and administrative memoranda, including but not limited to insurance, hold harmless, non-discrimination and equal benefits.

The agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by providing access to ophthalmology services to the patients of SMMC. In the past year, patients waiting for eye surgeries were reduced from 129 to 83, which represents a 36% reduction in patient wait time. It is anticipated that during this fiscal year, the number of patients waiting for surgery will be reduced to 47, or an additional 43% reduction.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2012-13 Actual	FY 2013-14 Projected
Percentage of reduction in number of patients waiting for eye surgery	36%	36%

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the agreement is September 1, 2011 through August 31, 2014. The amount of the agreement is not to exceed \$442,050 for the three year term. . Funds in the amount of \$127,350 are included in the SMMC FY 2013-14 Adopted Budget. Funds in the amount of \$29,003 will be included in the SMMC FY 2014-15 Budget.

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 meet the full costs of care are covered by the County's General Fund contribution to SMMC, and are within the existing annual appropriation.