



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Health System



Date: July 6, 2016
Board Meeting Date: September 6, 2016
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Louise Rogers, Chief, Health System
Chester J. Kunnappilly, MD, Interim Chief Executive Officer, San Mateo Medical Center

Subject: Agreement with Abhishek Gowda, MD for Pain Management Medicine Services

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an agreement with Abhishek Gowda, MD to provide pain management medicine services, for the term of December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2017, in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.

BACKGROUND:

San Mateo Medical Center (SMMC) has experienced a continued need for the medical assessment and treatment of chronic pain. These services include the care of patients with concurrent substance abuse issues, chronic pain syndrome (including back pain, headaches, and musculoskeletal pain), and disease-related diagnoses such as cancer and rheumatologic pain. SMMC is addressing this need by providing comprehensive pain management services, which include direct clinical services to patients, obtaining patient history, conducting a physical assessment, and deciding on appropriate treatment plans and prescriptions.

Dr. Abhishek Gowda began providing these services at SMMC in June 2015.

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Gowda has agreed to continue providing these services at SMMC and SMMC's Daly City Clinic. Dr. Gowda will supervise a clinic for the behavioral and psychological assessment, medical assessment, and interventional medication management associated with pain management services. Dr. Gowda will provide up to six half-day clinics per week. In addition, Dr. Gowda will also provide up to four educational lectures per year to SMMC's medical staff addressing pain management, sports, spine, and/or electrodiagnostic medicine.

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 obligations by a maximum of \$25,000 (in aggregate).

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

The agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by providing access to pain management services to County residents. It is anticipated that the number of patients presenting to the SMMC Emergency Department (ED) with pain management issues will be reduced by 5 patients per day.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE:

Measure	FY 2015-16 Actual	FY 2016-17 Projected
The number of patients presenting to the SMMC ED with pain management issues will be reduced by	3 patients per day	5 patients per day

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the agreement is December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2017. The amount of the agreement is not to exceed \$300,000 for the one-year term. Funds in the amount of \$175,000 have been included in the SMMC FY 2016-17 Approved Recommended Budget. Funds in the amount of \$125,000 will be included in the SMMC FY 2017-18 Recommended Budget.

The payment provisions and levels of service in this contract are essentially the same as the prior contract.

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.