

## **PDA Summary**

### **Third Operating Room Workgroup Meeting, Virtual, February 11, 2025**

#### Issues Discussed:

- Charity formula in the statute has an error; this is an issue for Licensure Section
- History of SMFP Operating Room Need Determinations
- Impact of removing ASC procedures from the Chapter 6 Standard SMFP Operating Room Methodology
- Recommendations for 2026 SMFP

#### History of Operating Room Need Determinations 2020-2025

- 3 to 17 operating rooms in the SMFP per year
- The largest single county allocation was Mecklenburg (12) in 2020, following the last major change in the SMFP Methodology
- Standard methodology produced need in 11 other Large Counties ;1 to 5 operating rooms each year; Large County has 125,000 or more residents.
- Eleven (11) petitions during the period produced a need for 11 of the operating rooms; SHCC denied or scaled back six of the 11 petitions.
- Nine (9) of the CONs awarded went to ASF's; 23 went to hospitals.
- After 2026, in Large Counties, only hospitals will need operating room allocations in SMFP.

#### Impact of Removing the Operating Rooms in Qualified ASFs from the Standard Methodology

- Excluding the QUASFs creates operating room need in Large counties. See summary table that follows.

	2025 SMFP	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4	Model 5
Facilities Included in Model*	hospitals (L) hospitals (S) ASFs (S) ASFs (L) or "QUASFs"***	hospitals (L) hospitals (S) ASFs (S)	hospitals (L) hospitals (S)	hospitals (L)	hospitals (S) ASFs (S)	ASFs (S)
Brunswick (L)	--	2	2	2	--	--
Cabarrus (L)	--	2	2	2	--	--
Davidson (L)	2	2	2	2	--	--
Mecklenburg (L)	5	4	4	4	--	--
Pitt*** (L)	5	2	2	2	--	--
Wake (L)	--	6	6	6	--	--
<b>Totals</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

\* (L) a county with a population greater than 125,000 according to the 2020 federal decennial census.  
(S) a county with a population of 125,000 or less according to the 2020 federal decennial census.

\*\* A qualified urban ambulatory surgical facility, which is defined as "an ambulatory surgical facility that meets all of the following criteria: a) Is licensed by the Department to operate as an ambulatory surgical facility; b) Has a single specialty or multispecialty surgical program; c) Is located in a county with a population greater than 125,000 according to the 2020 federal decennial census or any subsequent federal decennial census. See, § 131E-176 (21a).

\*\*\* In the 2025 SMFP, Pitt County is a part of a multi-county service area that also includes Greene, Hyde and Tyrrell Counties.

## Recommendation.

- Call attention to the charity calculation error.
- Adjust the standard methodology according to Model 1 for 2026
- Permit petitions to determine need in the 2026/2027 Plans.
- Urban counties have no methodology, petition process only.
- Revisit methodology/ remove the 10 percent maximum guard rails on case times in the methodology; hospitals will get more complex cases, and they will have longer times; should recognize this in the methodology; consider using case volume rather than population to drive need.