

HOSPITAL STATUS UPDATE



January 26, 2021

In the absence of clear, comprehensive, standard requirements and specific guidance that acute care hospitals must adhere to in Connecticut to prevent discriminatory practices should rationing of care become necessary, hospitals have been on their own, resulting in widely divergent policies, many conveying conflicting responses as to their policies, many not producing any policies at all, and almost uniformly falling short of providing necessary protections to prevent discriminatory practices, in violation of federal and state anti-discrimination laws. Even with this information in hand, DPH has steadfastly refused to issue uniform policy guidelines to Connecticut hospitals.

Hartford Hospital	Has produced a detailed protocol for any necessary rationing which fully complies with the coalition's 11 protections against discrimination.
Backus Hospital	(same as Hartford Hospital)
Charlotte Hungerford Hospital	(same as Hartford Hospital)
Windham Hospital	(same as Hartford Hospital)
Yale New Haven Health	Provided an updated guidance that addresses all protections except fails to ensure right to appeal in all cases, and in questionnaire justifies applying a longer term survival test (though claims not to apply one).
Bridgeport Hospital	(Same as YNHHS)
Greenwich Hospital	(Same as YNHHS)
Lawrence + Memorial Hospital	(Same as YNHHSI)
Bristol Hospital	Responded with a statement that they do not have any written guidance but in completing the questionnaire checked off that they comply with all of the 11 requests.
Danbury Hospital	Responded with a statement that it did not have any written guidance and refused to fill out the questionnaire about compliance with the 11 requests on that basis.
Day Kimball Hospital	Says it has no written guidance and fails to answer whether it is compliant with the 11 requests, but indicates it intends to produce a document at some point.
Eastern Connecticut Health Network (Manchester Memorial Hospital and Rockville Hospital)	Indicated, without providing any written policies, they comply with the 11 requests.
Griffin Hospital	Responded with a statement that it does not have any written guidance and not filling out the questionnaire on that basis.

Middlesex Hospital	Provided written guidelines. Filled out the questionnaire claiming full compliance with all 11 requests by the coalition, including non-discrimination on the basis of disability unrelated to immediate survival, but contradicted this in its guidelines by expressly excluding from access to life-sustaining treatment individuals with “advanced or irreversible neurological event or condition.”
Norwalk Hospital	Responded with a statement that it did not have any written guidance and refused to fill out the questionnaire about compliance with the 11 requests on that basis.
Sharon Hospital	Responded with a statement that it does not have any written guidance and is not filling out the questionnaire on that basis.
Stamford Hospital	Responded with a statement that it does not have written policies but completed the questionnaire checking off that it complies with all 11 requests, but then included other information which directly contradicts the claimed compliance, including use of an age-based “tie-breaker” and allowance for denying treatment if someone has a condition “likely to cause death within a year”. It also indicated it would undertake a reassessment of its policy, to be completed in the next 30 days (as of Jan.5).
Trinity Health (Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, St. Mary’s, Johnson Memorial)	Responded with a statement that they do not have such written policies but completing the questionnaire checking off that they comply with only <i>some</i> of the eleven requests— (1) failing to provide any appeal process, (2) failing to assure reasonable accommodations in applying the SOFA scores to people with disabilities, (3) failing to adopt a policy prohibiting steering patients toward agreeing to forego life-sustaining treatment.
UConn Health – John Dempsey Hospital	Responded with a statement that it does not have any written guidance and not filling out the questionnaire on that basis.
Waterbury Hospital	Responded with a statement that it does not have such written policies but completing the questionnaire checking off that it complies with only <i>some</i> of the 11 requests, including specifically not including the protection against applying a duration of survivability test beyond hospital discharge.