

Owner / Applicant Information

Elizabeth Mann  
HealthSouth/ Deaconess L.L.C.  
3660 GRANDVIEW PARKWAY  
SUITE 200  
BIRMINGHAM AL 35243  
Phone 2059707850  
Email ELIZABETH.MANN@HEALTHSOUTH.COM

Submitter Information

Jonathius Booker  
Gresham, Smith and Partners  
3595 Grandview Parkway  
Suite 300  
Birmingham IN  
Phone 2052989200  
Email jonas\_booker@gspnet.com

Designer Information

James Murphy JR  
Gresham, Smith and Partners  
3595 Grandview Parkway  
Suite 300  
Birmingham AL  
Phone 2052989200  
Email robert\_murphy@gspnet.com

Project Information

HealthSouth Deaconess Rehabilitation Hospital  
9355 Warrick Trail

NEWBURGH AL 47630

County WARRICK

Project Type New  Addition  Alteration  Existing  Change of Occupancy

Project Status  F=Filed U or Null=Unfiled

IDHS Issued Correction order?  No Has Violation been Issued?  No

Violation Issued by: NA

Local Building Official

Phone:  Email:

Local Fire Official

Phone:  Email:



Variance Details

Code Name: Other Code (Not in the list provided)

ICC A117.1-2009 Sect 608.2.2.3

Conditions: Code requires either a wall-mounted fold down shower seat or a fixed shower seat complying with Section 610 to be provided on an end wall in roll-in type shower compartments (see attached exhibit). But, 2010 ADA Standards (see attached exhibit) and previous 2003 edition of ICC A117.1 allow seats to be optional. HealthSouth requests a variance to the applicable code in order to provide portable seating in lieu of Code required fold-down or fixed shower seating.

DEMONSTRATION THAT PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE ARE PROTECTED:

1=Non-compliance with the rule will not be adverse to the public health, safety or w

2

2= Applicant will undertake alternative actions in lieu of compliance with the rule to ensure that granting of the variance will not be adverse to public health, safety, or welfare. Explain why alternative actions would be adequate (be specific).

Facts: In typical patient rooms, HealthSouth will provide portable seats/chairs which provide better stability, cleanliness, and allow the shower stall to have grab bars on all three walls, critical in fall prevention. In bariatric patient rooms, HealthSouth will provide movable, bariatric chairs which afford the same advantages as portable seats/chairs stated above, as well as allow nurses to safely move patients in and out of the shower stall. See attached construction document plans exhibit and typical chair/seat exhibits.

DEMONSTRATION OF UNDUE HARDSHIP OR HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURE:

Y

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of physical limitations of the construction site or its utility services.

Y

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of major operational problems in the use of the building or structure.

Y

Imposition of the rule would result in an undue hardship (unusual difficulty) because of excessive costs of additional or altered construction elements.

Imposition of the rule would prevent the preservation of an architecturally or a historically significant part of the building or structure

Facts: Imposition of the rule would limit the nursing staff's ability to safely assist patients in and out of the shower stall, limit the janitorial staff's ability to mitigate infection control problems, and cause excessive cost to the project in an attempt to ensure stability of wall-mounted fold down shower seats. And, there are spatial limitations that preclude the provision of fixed shower seats.

Wall mounted and fixed seating does not allow complete access to the patient by the attending caregiver. A moveable seat can be placed in the center of the shower stall proving access to all sides of the patient for better hygiene.

Further, ICC A117.1-2009 does not address the needs of bariatric patients and strict compliance with the Code would not be possible for the following reasons:

1. Grab bars are too far from the seat to be effective, since the FGI Guidelines for Design and Construction of Health Care Facilities require larger shower compartments.
2. ICC A117.1-2009 required seat size will NOT accommodate bariatric patients.

All new or renovated HealthSouth facilities expressly exclude wall-mounted fold down and fixed seating in patient showers for infection control purposes and the excessive cost-to-benefit ratio. All applicable codes allow alternative accommodations and configurations at the discretion of the authorities having jurisdiction.

