



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To James L. Sullivan
City Manager
Date 30 April 1979

From Donald P. Dressler, M.D. *DPD*
Acting Commissioner of Health and Hospital
Reference

Subject Proposals as made by The Cambridge Hospital House Officers Association

In response to the Council Order of 23 April 1979 introduced by Councilor Vellucci, we wish to detail the following items for your review:

1. Communication System

The paging system was added to the hospital and after it was completed, a number of "dead spots" were identified. To correct this situation, additional speakers have been added and a beeper system installed. Another problem, the over-loaded telephone switchboard, in which delays often result, will be corrected by the installation of our new telephone system presently on order and expected by 1 August 1979.

Additional beepers for those staff on call have been provided. An evaluation of our current beeper and speaker system is underway and it is expected that any major needed additional coverage will be identified and resolved within the next month.

2. Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation Equipment

The hospital has received full accreditation by the Joint Commission of Hospital Accreditation, Council of Medical Education, and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. These agencies fully cover all areas and in a conference with Dr. James McFarland, Chief of Medicine, he has concurred that the hospital has adequate cardio-pulmonary resuscitation equipment throughout the facility.

3. Heart Monitoring Devices and EKG Machines

During the current budget, FY 79, three heart monitoring devices and EKG machines were requested by the chief of service and the nursing department; these are currently on order.

Requests for three more of these devices have been included in next year's budget and will be ordered. This equipment will replace worn out, obsolete equipment and will provide better service. As noted above in Item 2, adequate devices are currently on hand.

4. Toxic Anesthetic Gasses

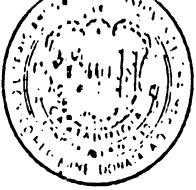
There has been some discussion over the past year related to the leakage of potentially toxic anesthetic gasses in the operating room. While this potentiality is by no means certain, we have had a scavenging system on all our anesthetic machines for the past three years and have passed all required inspections. Please note Attachment B, a letter from Dr. Kallini of the Anesthesiology Department.

5. Translator Services

During the past four months a translator program has been in service from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, at The Cambridge Hospital. The program is staffed primarily by C.E.T.A. people and includes training for them in medical terminology and interpreting techniques. They are assisting in setting up the recruitment of permanent bilingual personnel throughout the entire hospital. Six interpreters are currently employed: three Portuguese, two Spanish, and one Haitian-French. It is felt that 24-hour coverage would cost in excess of one quarter of a million dollars, which may not be the most prudent expenditure of public tax revenue.

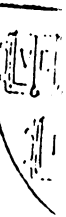
6. Physical and Occupational Therapy Services

Physical therapy services are available within 24 hours as per the licensure and accreditation requirements. Occupational therapy services are not warranted in light of the short-stay duration (average of seven and one-half days) and more pressing resource requirements in other areas. These services, however, are available on Cahill 3 and at Neville Manor.



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Harvard Medical School



ATTACHMENT A

PAGE CALL LISTINGS

<u>Number</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Individual</u>
4482 4482	Health	Sanitary Inspector
• 7273 •	Health	Housing Inspectors
• 3707	Medicine	Dr. Lesser
• 3717	Administrators	Les MacLeod & Dick
• 4482 7048	Nuclear Medicine	Mark Peterson, Sus. Gus Salvastano (Rot
• 3567 •	Cardiology	Dr. Becker
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• 4700 •	Maintenance	Richard Sullivan
• 4187 •	Maintenance	Wally Ford
• 3579 •	Maintenance	James Ford
• 3602 •	Radiology	Ann Connerty
7085 7085	EKG	Peggy Walsh
• 4482 4747	Plastic Surgery	Dr. Sigman
• 3918 •	Surgery	Dr. Fernandez
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• 4010 •	Respiratory Therapy	Tony Giordano
• 3516 •	Medicine	Dr. Atkins & Dr. Berkley
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• 7662 •	Ultra Sound	Jim Greenhalgh
• 3705 •	Pediatrics	Dr. Link
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• 4158 •	Pediatrics	Dr. Yorkowdy
• 3584 •	Pediatrics	Dr. Ridgeway
• 3700 •	Operating Room	On Call
• 7251 •	Operating Room	On Call
• 3725 •	Operating Room	On Call
• 7704 7707 •	Operating Room	On Call
• 3578 •	Recovery Room	On Call
• 3722 •	Recovery Room	On Call
• 3731 •	Recovery Room	On Call
• 3701 •	Spare	

• 7702 •

INFORMATION
SERVICE

HENRY SELIB

The Cambridge Hospital

Affiliated with
Harvard Medical School



Department of Anesthesiology
and Respiratory Care

April 30, 1979

Donald Dressler, M.D.
Acting Commissioner of
Health and Hospitals
The Cambridge Hospital
1493 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Dr. Dressler:

The members of the Department of Anesthesia at The Cambridge Hospital were surprised to read in one of the local newspapers that the Anesthesia machines in the Operating Rooms did not have scavenging systems.

We have been using scavenging systems on our machines for the past three years, and have passed the State and JCAH Inspections, which require the scavenging system to pass the inspections.

I would like to add that even if the scavenging system was not required for the inspections, we would have used it anyway, because we do not have any reason to endanger our personal health and the health of the operating room personnel by polluting the atmosphere in the Operating Rooms.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Adel A. Kallini".

Adel A. Kallini, M.D.
Associate Director
Department of Anesthesia

AAK/jlb

cc: Mr. Les MacLeod



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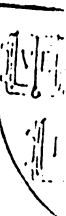
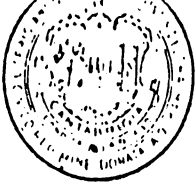
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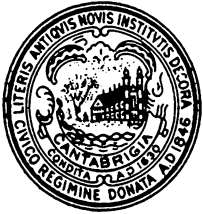
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Adel A. Kallini, M.D.
Associate Director
Department of Anesthesia

AAK/jlb

cc: Mr. Les MacLeod



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CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 498-9011

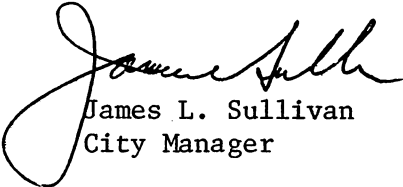
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

April 30, 1979

To the Honorable, the City Council:

With respect to Awaiting Report Item No. 24 relative to proposals by the Cambridge Hospital House Officers' Association, please be advised that Dr. Dressler will be at the Council meeting to answer any questions.

Very truly yours,



James L. Sullivan
City Manager

JLS/mbf

S-246

RE; Awaiting Report No. 24 re: proposals
by the Cambridge Hospital House Officers'
Association.

In City Council,
April 30, 1979

4/30/79

Placed

on

F.I.L.