**Questions and Answers Part II**

1)      As part of the original Q&A, we asked a combined question about an increase in STAT time *and* the placement of an Omnicell in-facility automated dispensing unit.  It’s unclear from your answer whether you were saying “No” to just the increase in STAT time or *both* the increase in STAT time and the suggestion of placing an Omnicell.  As we wrote in our original question, the standard Omnicell configuration holds 200-250 items and we can work with facility staff to ensure that the most commonly ordered STAT items are maintained in sufficient quantity within the Omnicell machine, pursuant to all federal, state, and local rules, laws and regulations.  Based on our understanding of the regulations in Mississippi, an Omnicell machine would be permitted at your main campus in Long Beach as long as you obtain the required permit from the state.  A licensed staff member (either a doctor, RN or LPN) would need to remove items from the machine for dispensing to patients.  The Omnicell would be stocked by our pharmacy.  We believe an Omnicell would work well for several reasons:  A)  Because of the number of items it holds, we believe virtually all potential STAT items could be stocked within the machine; B)  As the machine would be located *within* the facility, we expect items will be dispensed to patients far sooner than they can be ordered and delivered by an off-site pharmacy; C) Like any other type of emergency or contingency kit, the items stocked within the Omnicell would continue to be in the pharmacy’s inventory and not charged to SMRC (or the appropriate third party pay source) until the item is removed from the machine by a staff member.  Can you clarify whether you will consider placement of an Omnicell machine at SMRC?  We have multiple customers in the area of SMRC who currently utilize an Omnicell and, upon request, can provide you with a contact person at those facilities who can discuss their experience with the Omnicell technology.

 **ANSWER: The Omnicell Machine is not a preferable Option at this time.**

2)      What is the average number of STAT / emergency orders placed on a monthly basis for all locations?  Are STAT / emergency orders always delivered to all locations within one hour of the order being placed?  Upon information and belief, your current pharmacy is located approximately 14 minutes from the main campus, approximately 48 minutes from the Gautier locations, and approximately 26 minutes from the Biloxi locations.  Given the various steps a pharmacy is required to go through prior to filling an order and the order leaving the pharmacy, we believe it would be difficult for your current provider to (given its believed location), within one hour after the order is placed, have it delivered to the Gautier or Biloxi locations.  Even being 14 minutes from the main campus, those deliveries may not always occur within an hour of the STAT order being placed purely due to the process a pharmacy must go through to fill an order and the time that process requires.  This situation would be exacerbated in the event that a STAT order is placed after normal business hours.  Can you provide some detail on the percentage of time in which the current vendor is able to deliver STAT orders at all three locations within an hour of the order being placed?

 **ANSWER: There are 12-15 Meds filled monthly by STAT/emergency orders.**

**ANSWER: Current Vendor is able to complete STAT order times in accordance with current Contractual obligations.**