Mike DeWine, Governor Jon Husted, Lt. Governor Amy Acton, M.D., MPH, Director

## **DIRECTOR'S JOURNAL ENTRY**

## VARIANCE FOR HOSPITALS TO APPLY FOR NEW REGISTRATIONS FOR TEMPORARY TREATMENT LOCATIONS

Due to the ongoing situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, the stress that is being placed on hospitals as a result thereof, and pursuant to authority granted to me in Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3701:1-38-08, I hereby grant a variance of OAC rule 3701:1-38-03(C) to any hospital that is an existing registrant of radiation-generating equipment wishing to relocate all or a portion of its existing portable and mobile radiation-generating equipment outside the five-mile radius currently permitted by the definition of "facility" in paragraphs (A) and (B) of the rule in order to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Any hospital meeting this description is permitted to relocate and operate its existing portable and mobile radiation-generating equipment outside of the five-mile radius currently permitted by rule without first reregistering the equipment with the Ohio Department of Health, as would normally be required under OAC rule 3701:1-38-03(C).

I determine there is good cause for this variance based on the following reasons:

- To free up hospital staff to focus on their response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The hospital will maintain adequate control of all radiation-generating equipment used in a temporary location.
- The hospital will ensure safe operating procedures for the temporary location will be established and followed for the protection of patients, operators and staff.

I have determined that granting this variance will not result in undue hazard for the public's health and safety or have a detrimental effect on the environment. This Journal Entry shall remain in effect until I withdraw it.

Amy Agton, M.D., MPH

Director of Health

Date