



Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God.

January 14, 2022

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL: Rick@will-law.org; Dan@will-law.org

Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty, Inc.
Attn: Rick Esenberg, President and General Counsel
Daniel P. Lennington, Deputy Counsel
330 East Kilbourn Avenue
Suite 725
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Re: SSM Health Response to Race Discrimination in the Distribution of COVID-19 Therapeutics

Dear Mr. Esenberg and Mr. Lennington:

This is in response to your letter of January 14, 2022, regarding your concerns and allegations of race discrimination in the distribution of COVID-19 therapeutics. Please know, SSM Health does not discriminate against any patient based on age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, language, physical or mental disability, socioeconomic status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, marital status, source of payment, or ability to pay in the treatment of COVID-19. SSM Health strives to provide exceptional care to all who walk through our doors seeking assistance, including the most vulnerable members of our society.

Risk-scoring calculators for COVID-19 monoclonal antibody therapy are only used when supply is limited. Risk-scoring calculators, which included race and gender, were developed by numerous health systems across the U.S. early in the pandemic when evidence-based medicine suggested it was appropriate. The risk-scoring calculator, referenced in your letter, which included points for race and gender, was inadvertently included in a December 30, 2021, internal email to physicians. Prior to that email being sent, SSM Health had already removed race and gender from its new risk-scoring calculator based on the most current clinical evidence. To reiterate, prior to your letter, SSM Health excluded race and gender from its updated risk-scoring calculator.

If you have any further questions or concerns, I would be happy to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Hanley".

Matt Hanley, M.D.
Interim Regional President - Wisconsin

MH:rp