

9/28/2014

Fatimah Wilson
Project Analyst
Certificate of Need Section
Division of Health Service Regulation
Raleigh, NC

Received by
the CON Section
OCT 1 2014

Dear Ms. Wilson

I have been practicing nephrology in Scotland County for last 11 years. I also serve as Medical Director of FMCNA dialysis centers in Scotland County. I am writing this letter to request you to deny CON to DaVita for building a dialysis center in Maxton, NC. I want to submit following facts for your consideration.

1. Access to dialysis care for Scotland County patients will be in jeopardy

The newly proposed dialysis center in Maxton, NC (Robeson County) will be about 25 miles from St Paul, NC and only 7 miles from Laurinburg (Scotland County). Please note that city of Maxton is in both Robeson County and Scotland County. Therefore in reality the new dialysis center will be competing for patients in Scotland County. Earlier this year CON for a new dialysis center in Scotland County was denied to DaVita. It was noted then and is still true that Scotland Dialysis Center has no commercial patients. It was noted and is still true that placing a new dialysis center in Maxton, NC for all practical purposes is same as building a new dialysis center in Scotland County, since part of Maxton, NC is in Scotland County. It will jeopardize the existence of Scotland Dialysis Center due to dilution and duplication of services. Please note that State has recently granted extra dialysis chairs to Laurinburg and Scotland Dialysis Centers. These chairs are being made available to patients. At the same time Scotland Dialysis Center is incurring ongoing losses due to Medicare payment cuts and lack of private insurance patients. Any further dilution of services and payment will cause extreme financial hardship to Scotland County dialysis centers which will in turn make it very difficult for them to hire top quality nursing staff to provide excellent medical care to our patients.

2. Patient Letters

It has been brought to my attention that about 40% (5) of the dialysis patients from Scotland County who signed letters of support actually live in Scottish Pines (Nursing Home in Scotland County). Scottish Pines is literally across the street from Laurinburg Dialysis Center. Therefore they will never be transported out of county for dialysis. Also many of the PD/Home patients who wrote letters of support actually dialyze in McColl DaVita Dialysis Center which is in South Carolina. Again many of the Incenter HD patients who wrote letters of support dialyze in DaVita Dialysis Centers. Please note that closest DaVita Dialysis Centers are in McColl (SC), Hamlet and Hoke County which are about 17 to 25 miles away from proposed dialysis center in Maxton, NC. Therefore there appears to be gross misrepresentation of facts in this regard. It makes one wonder why patients dialyzing in a different state are writing letters of support for opening dialysis center in NC. I would like you to look into this matter closely.

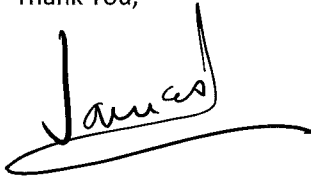
3. Nonviability of Maxton, NC Dialysis Center

Maxton, NC is small town with limited resources. It is obvious that DaVita dialysis center in Maxton, NC will end up in a situation similar to DaVita Dialysis Center in StPaul. Even the Medical Practice at the proposed site for the dialysis center had to be closed due to financial nonviability. Another medical practice across the street was sold to a larger hospital few years ago. The only two other medical practices in the area are surviving due to state and federal subsidy.

4. Summary

In view of these facts I will request you to deny CON for dialysis center in Maxton, NC. I urge you to look into the irregularities in letters of support for DaVita Dialysis Center in Maxton, NC. Our dialysis patients deserve the best quality medical care. Providing them with an excellent medical care is a very resource intense endeavor. In rural counties of North Carolina like ours these resources have to be used judiciously.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jawad", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Dr Muhammad Jawad Iqbal, MD

Scotland Medical Center
422 King St,
Laurinburg, NC 28352

9/30/2014

Fatimah Wilson
Certificate of Need Section
Division of Health Service Regulation
2704 mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699

OCT 1 2014
Received by
the CON Section

Dear Ms Wilson

I am writing this letter to oppose building a new dialysis center in Maxton, NC. As you know part of Maxton, NC is in Scotland County. Placing a new dialysis center in this area will result in duplication of services and dilution of resources. It will place extreme financial strain on Scotland County Dialysis Centers, since the new dialysis center in Maxton will be competing for Scotland County patients.

I see patients in Laurinburg Dialysis Center and Scotland County Dialysis Center. I am very satisfied with the excellent care they get at FMCNA dialysis centers. My patients are very happy with the care they get at these centers. No one has expressed any desire to move to a different dialysis center. Moreover Scotland County FMCNA Dialysis centers are located very close to Scotland Memorial Hospital, Laurinburg, NC and Emergency Medical Transport Services are readily available. I am always certain that in case of an emergency they will get to the local hospital promptly. Additional chairs are being made available at these centers to accommodate patients in Scotland County and adjacent areas.

In view of these facts I appeal you to deny CON for dialysis center in Maxton, NC.

Donna Gibson
Donna Gibson, NP
Scotland Medical Center
422 King St, Laurinburg, NC 28352

9/30/2014

Fatimah Wilson
Certificate of Need Section
Division of Health Service Regulation
2704 mail Service Center
Raleigh,NC 27699

Received by
the CON Section
OCT 1 2014

Dear Ms Wilson

I am writing this letter to oppose building a new dialysis center in Maxton,NC. As you know part of Maxton,NC is in Scotland County.Placing a new dialysis center in this area will result in duplication of services and dilution of resources. It will place extreme financial strain on Scotland County Dialysis Centers, since the new dilaysis center in Maxton will be competing for Scotland County patients.

I see patients in Laurinburg Dialysis Center and Scotland County Dialysis Center. I am very satisfied with the excellent care they get at FMCNA dialysis centers. My patients are very happy with the care they get at these centers. No one has expressed any desire to move to a different dialysis center. Moreover Scotland County FMCNA Dialysis centers are located very close to Scotland Memorial Hospital,Laurinburg,NC and Emergency Medical Transport Services are readily available. I am always certain that in case of an emergency they will get to the local hospital promptly. Additional chairs are being made available at these centers to accommodate patients in Scotland County and adjacent areas.

In view of these facts I appeal you to deny CON for dilaysis center in Maxton,NC .

Mary Newton, NP

Mary Newton Shy, NP
Scotland Medical Center
422 King St, LAurinburg,NC 28352