

Chronically Underutilized Operating Rooms

	<i>Carolinas Surgery Center Randolph</i>	<i>Asheville Eye Surgery Center</i>	<i>Surgery Center of Pinehurst</i>	<i>Gateway</i>	<i>Presbyterian Surgery Center at Ballantyne</i>	<i>Viewmont</i>	<i>Atlantic Surgicenter</i>	<i>Mebane Ambulatory Surgery Center</i>
Licensure Date	10/8/2002	3/1/2004	1/17/2006	1/23/2006	8/9/2007	9/20/2007	11/15/2007	6/17/2008
Utilization First License Renewal Application	6.0%	68.7%	31.1%	33.7%	1.9%	0.5%	19.3%	1.6%
Utilization Second License Renewal Application	20.9%	198.3%	59.1%	94.3%	16.9%	51.5%	N/A	N/A
Utilization Third License Renewal Application	61.2%	236.8%	63.5%	114.9%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Utilization Fourth License Renewal Application	56.1%	265.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of Operating Rooms	8	1	6	4	3	3	4	3
Capacity (Hours)	14,976	1,872	11,232	7,488	5,616	5,616	7,488	5,616

The above table summarizes utilization for eight ambulatory surgery centers, licensed since 2002. As the table shows, the rate at which ambulatory surgery centers have increased their utilization has varied across facilities.

Review of the data indicates that the facilities achieved 40 percent utilization sometime within three years of initial licensure.

Facilities become initially licensed throughout the year and the license renewal application is for the set period of October 1 - September 30.

Given the above, the Agency recommends defining chronically underutilized facilities as the following:

"Licensed facilities operating at less than 40 percent utilization for the past two fiscal years, which have been licensed long enough to submit at least **three** (two in current definition) License Renewal Applications to the Division of Health Service Regulation."