



**Radiation Therapy Associates  
of Western North Carolina, P.A.  
21st Century Oncology**

DFS Health Planning  
**RECEIVED**

**AUG 18 2010**

**Medical Facilities  
PLANNING SECTION**

*Board Certified in  
Medical Oncology*

*Board Certified in the  
Practice of Radiation Oncology*

*Accredited by the American  
College of Radiation Oncology*

August 16, 2010

**PET SCAN CERTIFICATE OF NEED  
RE: FOR THE WESTERN COUNTIES OF  
NORTH CAROLINA**

**Medical Oncology**

**Barton R. Paschal, M.D.**  
Medical Degree:  
Emory University  
Residency:  
Louisiana State University  
Fellow: Wake Forest University  
Medical Center

**Radiation Oncology**

**Charles C. Thomas II, M.D.**  
Medical Degree:  
University of North Carolina  
School of Medicine  
Residency:  
Diagnostic Radiology:  
Medical University of South Carolina  
Radiation Oncology:  
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**R. Lewis Royster, Jr., M.D.**

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Residency:  
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**Mary J. Puckett, MMS, Ph.D.**

Physician Assistant  
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MMS, Areadia University  
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**Horacio F. Giraut, MS,  
DABR**

Medical Physicist

**David M. Strongosky, MMSc**

Medical Physicist

**S. Lynn Call, MS, DABR**

Medical Physicist

Dear Ms. Hoffman:

A positron emission scanner (PET scanner) is essential for the care of cancer patients in the westernmost counties of North Carolina. We built 7 regional cancer centers across western North Carolina with the assistance of your office and as an affiliate of the Duke Health System. We are now part of 21st Century Oncology, which is one of the largest providers of oncology services in the United States. It was clearly documented that breast conservation was denied many ladies in the rural areas of western North Carolina prior to the advent of adequate facilities close to their home, families, and work. Technology has progressed. An isolated PET scanner in Asheville, North Carolina, is totally inadequate for the needs of cancer patients in Haywood, Jackson, Swain, Macon, and other counties further west. A glance at a topographical map readily confirms this statement.

PET scanning has become an integral and accepted part of cancer staging and diagnosis, and is necessary for careful treatment planning and monitoring.

The Med-West Health System encompassing Haywood, Jackson, Swain, and Macon counties has developed after many months of both the political and community leadership in careful deliberation. This has been necessary to meet the health care needs of our communities. We need and appreciate your help.

One demonstrable measure of the need for cancer services, is the number of linear accelerators. There are now 3 accelerators in this area in full operation, and a year ago there were 4. Many patients are having to leave the area for care, and this is particularly hard on the less fortunate of our society. This also adversely impacts older individuals without local family. On behalf of the large number of elderly cancer patients in our area, I respectfully ask for your help.

Respectfully,

Charles C. Thomas, II, MD, FACRO  
Electronically signed by Charles C. Thomas,  
II, MD, FACRO on 8/18/2010 11:13:39 AM

CCT/cp/mr

DD: 8/16/2010

DT: 8/18/2010

lra