



Jeffrey W. Smith, CPA, MBA, FACMPE, CGMA
Chief Executive Officer
Piedmont HealthCare, PA
650 Signal Hill Drive Extension
Statesville, NC 28625

August 11, 2021

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my passionate support for the Iredell Health System's petition to utilize their existing procedure room as a shared cardiac catheterization laboratory. As the CEO of a large multispecialty medical practice, I can attest to the value of recruiting and retaining highly trained physicians and staff, the importance of efficient operations and of course, meeting the growing medical needs of the communities and patients we serve.

Currently Piedmont HealthCare has two cardiologists on the Medical Staff of Iredell Memorial Hospital, and has committed to providing a third cardiologist in the third quarter of this year. The incidence of cardiovascular disease for the region we serve continues to be significant, and we believe the addition of our third cardiologist is critical to our ability to continue to meet the needs of Iredell County and the surrounding region. The doctor joining Piedmont next month is boarded in both invasive/interventional cardiology as well as peripheral vascular medicine and intervention. The ability to utilize the procedure room at Iredell Memorial Hospital for both coronary and/or vascular cases dependent on patient need will clearly improve access to Iredell's labs, optimize physician productivity and, most importantly, improve patient care.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support of this most important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey W. Smith", is written over a light blue circular scribble.

Jeffrey W. Smith
Chief Executive Officer
Piedmont HealthCare, PA



Charles DeBerardinis, MD
Medical Director Cardiac Cath Lab
Iredell Health System
557 Brookdale Drive
Statesville, NC, 28677


August 6, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

We fully endorse the CON petition by Iredell Health System to utilize an existing Procedure Room as a shared Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory. Prior to the North Carolina Executive Order allowing us to temporarily use our vascular room for coronary cases, we were scheduling seven cardiologists' patients in one licensed coronary room. Not only did this make scheduling complex, it potentially resulted in patient delays for necessary diagnostic and/or intervention procedures, created almost daily patient flow difficulties and scheduling delays and, at times, contributed to prolonged length of stays due to late evening interventions. Because of regional demand on our Labs, we will be adding an additional (8th) invasive/interventional cardiologist on staff beginning in September of this year. Without the permanent ability to place two elective coronary patients in our respective suites simultaneously, the problems we encountered prior to the Executive Order will only be compounded.


As Cardiovascular physicians, we firmly believe improved access to our Cath Labs is critical to assuring high-quality, patient-friendly and cost-effective care. Your approval of this petition will lay the groundwork for our shared vision to be realized. We thank you for your consideration of this important matter.


Sincerely,




Charles DeBerardinis, DO, FACC
Medical Director &
Invasive/Interventional Cardiologist
Statesville Cardiovascular Clinic

John Allan, MD, FACC, FAHA
Invasive Cardiologist
Iredell Cardiology

Naim Bouhoussein, MD, FACC
Invasive Cardiologist
Statesville Cardiovascular Clinic


James Bradford, MD, FACC
Invasive Cardiologist
Statesville Cardiovascular Clinic


Bradley Martin, MD
Cardiologist
Statesville Cardiovascular Clinic



Jips Zachariak, MD, FACC
Invasive/Interventional Cardiologist
Piedmont HealthCare Cardiology

Note: The offices of Iredell Cardiology and Statesville Cardiovascular Clinic are a part of Iredell Physician Network, LLC, a subsidiary of Iredell Memorial Hospital, Incorporated, dba Iredell Health System.



Vijay Nagpal, M.D.
Medical Director Emergency Medicine
Iredell Memorial Hospital
557 Brookdale Drive
Statesville, NC, 28677

August 9, 2021

To Whom it May Concern:

I am pleased to offer my support for the Iredell Health System's petition and request to utilize their existing procedure room as a shared cardiac catheterization laboratory for their coronary cases. As a Board-Certified Emergency Medicine Physician, I fully understand the importance of early diagnosis and treatment of early myocardial infarction care. The Emergency Room is quite often the "front door" to the Cardiac Cath Lab and prompt access to a cath lab suite is critical for emergent management of STEMIs as well as the urgent unstable cardiac patient.

I understand today, we have seven cardiologists scheduling coronary cases in a single licensed room; it is a complex process which may result in delays of diagnosis and potential treatment, and frequently results in extended wait times for patients while at the Center. It is of utmost importance that our Labs operate with a "patients first" mentality with a mindset to optimize outcomes for our cardiovascular patients.

I strongly believe, expanding our Cath Lab's potential to use both suites for Coronary Cases (if need be) will significantly improve patient, physician, and staff schedules as well as enhance our ability to improve patient access to this critical service. I thank you in advance for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "V.S. Nagpal MD". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Vijay Nagpal, M.D.



Ray Georgeson, M.D.
Piedmont HealthCare Cardiology
633 Brookdale Drive, Suite 100
Statesville, NC, 28677

August 6, 2021

To Whom it May Concern:

I am very excited to have the opportunity to support Iredell Health System's CON request to utilize an existing procedure room as a shared cardiac catheterization laboratory. As a Board Certified Cardiologist and a current member of Iredell Health System's Board of Directors, I have a unique opportunity to view this request from a couple of perspectives. First, as a Practicing Cardiologist I can say that the temporary ability to utilize both of our suites for coronary cases has clearly yielded positive results related to both improved patient flow, and staff/physician productivity. As a Board member and patient advocate, I can attest that the Executive Order has not only improved access to Iredell cath labs but, more importantly, it has significantly enhanced patient convenience.

Thank you for your consideration and support of this important matter. I feel your support of this petition will assure Iredell's labs will be better positioned to meet the heart and vascular needs of the communities and patients we serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Ray Georgeson, M.D.", written over a horizontal line.

Ray Georgeson, M.D.
Piedmont HealthCare Cardiology