



DukeMedicine

Duke Raleigh Hospital

DUKE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SYSTEM

June 4, 2010

Douglas B. Vinsel
President

received by the
CON Section

Mr. Craig Smith, Chief
Certificate of Need Section
North Carolina Division of Health Services Regulation
701 Barbour Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

08 JUN REC'D 11 : 08

Re. Letter of Support for Fixed MRI Scanner at Duke Raleigh Hospital

Dear Mr. Smith:

As President of Duke Raleigh Hospital, I am writing to express my strong support for the hospital's application for a second fixed magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) unit. This addition is necessary to meet the continued population growth of Wake County, as well as the recent and projected growth of physicians and services at the hospital. Over the next five years we expect the recruitment of a number of surgical and medical specialists as well as primary care physicians. Many of those doctors will require MRI scans for their patients in order to diagnose medical issues and to properly prescribe and manage care. It is imperative that we meet that need with the latest in technology and utmost ease of access.

From FY 2009 (July 1, 2008 to June 30th, 2009) to FY10 (July 1, 2009 to June 30th, 2010), our MRI projected volume is anticipated to grow by 14% or almost 700 scans. Much of that growth has been due to new physicians using hospital services, many of which are only in their first or second year of practice and still have additional patient capacity. That combined with ongoing physician recruitment efforts, expanded clinical programs and a growing population highlight the need for a second fixed MRI at Duke Raleigh Hospital.

Finally, a second scanner at Duke Raleigh would be used to provide services for both inpatients and outpatients. It is in that setting that an individual with the greatest clinical needs, as well as those looking for a convenient medical setting, can have their healthcare needs addressed. I urge the Division to grant Duke Raleigh's request for an additional MRI scanner

Sincerely,

Douglas B. Vinsel
President

DBV/sh



21 JUN REC'D 10 : 17
Duke Raleigh Hospital
Duke Raleigh Cancer Center

June 10th, 2010

Mr. Craig Smith, Chief
Certificate of Need Section
North Carolina Division of Health Services Regulation
701 Barbour Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

Re. Letter of Support for Fixed MRI Scanner at Duke Raleigh Hospital

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am a Medical Oncologist practicing at the Duke Raleigh Cancer Center on the campus of Duke Raleigh Hospital. Along with other members of my group which Drs. Yuri Fesco and Sharon Taylor, we are submitting this letter of support for the CON application filed by Duke Raleigh to add a second fixed magnetic resonance imaging unit (MRI). This addition is necessary to meet the continued population growth of Wake County as well as the recent and projected growth of physicians and services at the hospital.

During FY 2009 (July 1st, 2008 to June 30th, 2009), our group ordered 250 MRI scans. This fiscal year we are projected to 273 studies, almost a 10% increase over prior year. Much of this is due to the continued growth and expansion of Duke Oncology services in Wake County. Over the next five years, there will also be a significant increase in the number of oncologic specialists joining the Duke practice in Raleigh. There is an expectation that our need for MRI services will grow by a substantial margin, creating a compelling need for a second fixed MRI scanner.

Because utilization of MRI services at Duke Raleigh has increased tremendously, there are often scheduling delays which can impede treatment. When this occurs, it negatively impacts both patient and physician satisfaction. Additionally, a second fixed MRI will allow for the flexibility of providing care for both inpatients and outpatients, clearly meeting a greater need. As a physician practicing at Duke Raleigh Hospital, I strongly encourage the Division to approve the application of Duke Raleigh Hospital for a second fixed MRI unit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Spiritos'.

Michael Spiritos, M.D.
Medical Oncologist
Duke Raleigh Cancer Center

MS/chf