

August 7, 2023

Sandra Greene, PhD Chair
State Health Coordinating Council
Andrea Emmanuel, PhD Acting Assistant Chief
Healthcare Planning Section
Division of Health Service Regulation

2714 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2714

RE: Carteret Health Care Petition for Hybrid PET/CT Simulator / Scanner at an Acute Care Hospital in Carteret County, HSA VI, North Carolina

Dear Dr. Greene and Dr. Emmanuel,

My name is Danny McQueen. I am writing to support the petition submitted by Carteret Health Care for an adjusted need determination in the *2024 State Medical Facilities Plan* for one hybrid PET scanner/simulator in HSA VI designated for a licensed acute care hospital in Carteret County. I understand that this request will improve access, affordability, and quality of care for cancer patients in Carteret County and surrounding areas.

As a cancer patient from Beaufort, NC, I depend on Carteret Health for my treatment. The cancer center is constantly busy, and I appreciate what Carteret Health does to bring new technology to the hospital. Having a fixed hybrid PET scanner/simulator at the hospital would drastically improve my care. The hospital would have more capacity for scans and simulations throughout the week and not being in a mobile trailer would be a major improvement. With capacity and range of services increased, we would not face the hurdle of having to travel at least two hours when capacity is full, or when the PET scanner cannot provide the isotope we need. Having the hybrid PET scanner/simulator throughout the week would enable CHC to start doing scans and simulations for specialized cancers (i.e., breast, prostate, brain).

The history of Carteret Health Care with regard to quality is well documented. The expanded services would no doubt sustain the same quality levels.

Please approve the petition from Carteret Health Care to include a special need for one hybrid PET scanner/simulator in HSA VI and designate it for a licensed acute care hospital in Carteret County. Thank you for your time and attention to this critical issue.

Regards,



Danny McQueen
CHC Patient