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Gebrette Miles, Project Analyst

Certificate of Need Section

Division of Health Services Regulation

I am an Internal Medicine Physician in the Hendersonville area. I am against issuance of a CON for Mission Hospital to build a GI lab near the county line. At present there is more than enough capacity in our community for the type of procedures that would be done in that lab. After building the lab, Mission Hospital would the feel the need to make it profitable. Since there is excess capacity as it is, the only way to show a profit is to do unnecessary testing or increase their billing for the procedures. Either way it is the citizens of the area that are shouldering the responsibility for making an un-needed lab profitable. In my experience, if this lab dilutes the business of pre-existing physicians then they will also be forced to look for added ways to remain profitable. Again, this is not in the best interest of our citizens.

It would seem that if Mission Hospital has excess money to spend, then that money should go back to the citizens who have subsidized the hospital, not the expansion which will only increase the resumes of the hospital administrators.

Sincerely,

Bruce Perlman M.D

Internal Medicine