

Technology and Equipment Oral Report to the SHCC
on
2015 Summer Petitions and Comments

The Technology and Equipment Committee will meet next on Wednesday, September 16, 2015. The committee will review and discuss several petitions for adjusted need determinations at this meeting. Materials related to this report will be posted online on the Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section's website.

The following is a brief rundown of the petitions and comments received during the public hearings in July 2015.

WITH REGARD TO CHAPTER 9, POSITRON EMISSION TOMOGRAPHY SCANNER (PET):

One petition was received from Alliance Healthcare Services requesting an adjusted need determination for zero conversions through Policy TE-1 of fixed to mobile PET scanners in the *North Carolina 2016 State Medical Facilities Plan (SMFP)*. Two comments were received in opposition.

WITH REGARD TO CHAPTER 9, MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING (MRI):

Three petitions were received on this section. One petition was received from Carolinas HealthCare System requesting the need determination for one fixed MRI Scanner in Lincoln County be removed from the *Proposed 2016 SMFP*. No comments were received on this petition.

The second petition, from J. Arthur Doshier Memorial Hospital, is requesting an adjusted need determination for one fixed MRI scanner in Brunswick County with a lowered tiered planning threshold of 1,716 weighted procedures for applicants. This petition received 45 letters of support and one letter of opposition.

Raleigh Radiology submitted the third petition and is requesting an adjusted need determination for one fixed MRI scanner in Wake County. Two letters of support, two letters in opposition, and one comment were received.

In addition, two comments were received concerning MRI scanners. The first, related to *Policy TE-2: Intraoperative Magnetic Resonance Scanners* and requested for consideration the following wording change for clarification:

1. *Performed at least 500 intracranial neurosurgical cases during the 12 months immediately preceding submission of the application; and*

The second comment was in opposition to using MRI CPT codes for utilization data for planning purposes because it may be unreliable. The commenter requests for consideration the discontinuation of collecting CPT code procedure volumes.

WITH REGARD TO CHAPTER 9, CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION:

Two petitions were received on this section. The first was from Rex Healthcare requesting an adjusted need determination in Wake County for one fixed cardiac catheterization machine. One letter of support and two letters of opposition were received.

The second petition was from Harnett Health requesting an adjusted need determination in Harnett County for one shared fixed cardiac catheterization machine. Nine letters of support were received.

WITH REGARD TO CHAPTER 9, LITHOTRIPSY:

No petitions or comments were received.

WITH REGARD TO CHAPTER 9, GAMMA KNIFE:

No petitions or comments were received.

WITH REGARD TO CHAPTER 9, LINEAR ACCELERATORS:

There was one comment received that included several recommendations:

1. Updating ESTVs based on new information from the American College of Radiology;
2. Sending a survey to all cancer centers in NC collect data on time associated with each type of case; or
3. Convene a discussion group to review all codes and determining time between cases to redefine weighting of cases.

In conclusion, the committee will provide recommendations to the State Health Coordination Council in preparation for the *Proposed 2016 SMFP* at the October 7, 2015 meeting.