

3500 Arendell Street - P.O. Drawer 1619 - Morehead City, NC 28557-1619 <u>www.ccgh.org</u> - Telephone (252) 808-6000

RECEIVED By K Fisk at 3:39 pm, Aug 16, 2012 Patrick "Pat" Joyce Chairman Richard Brvenik, FACHE President

August 13, 2012

Nadine Pfeiffer, Chief Planning Section Division of Facility Services 801 Ruggles Drive 2714 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2714

RE: Carteret General Hospital Petition for Shared Fixed Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory, Carteret County and Johnston Memorial Hospital Petition for Temporary Rule to Permit Interventional Catheterization in Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories without Open Heart Surgery

Dear Ms. Pfeiffer,

On behalf of myself and my partners with Emergency Management Physicians, I ask that DHSR Planning Staff recommend to the full State Health Coordinating Council, approval of the request from Carteret General Hospital for an adjusted need determination for a shared fixed cardiac catheterization laboratory in Carteret County for the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

Carteret County's unique demographics necessitates that every week, we arrange transfers for patients who truly need cardiac catheterization to conform to EMTALA regulations and complete their diagnosis and stabilization. We arrange excellent ACLS trained staff transport and work with excellent tertiary care facilities, but the arrangement places extreme hardships on patients and their families. Carteret County has a large enough need to support a full cardiac catheterization laboratory. The stress of having to transport these patients is unnecessary and involves risk.

We have five stellar cardiologists who have demonstrated excellent results; two have current experience with cardiac catheterization. With a cath lab in the county, no doubt, many who delay the diagnostic procedure because they do not want or cannot arrange the long travel to New Bern or farther, would get preventative care before it reached emergency status.

The track record of Carteret General with regard to quality is well documented in their petition. Cardiac catheterization would get the same level of attention.

Please agree to the petitions from both Carteret General and Johnston Memorial. Please include a special need for a shared fixed cardiac catheterization unit in Carteret County and address the temporary rule to permit cardiac catheterization laboratories that meet the AHA guidelines to offer both therapeutic and diagnostic catheterizations.

Carteret General's access to a cardiac catheterization laboratory would complement, not replace, the cardiology services of CarolinaEast Medical Center.

Our Mission is Your Health



Patrick "Pat" Joyce Chairman Richard Brvenik, FACHE President

Thank you for your time and attention. My partners or I would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Bradstreet, MD Chief of Emergency Medicine

Medical Director of Emergency Department

Name (Print)	Signature	Address	Specialty	Date
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