



Martha F. Anderson, M.D.

Al Wilson, M.D.

Frank P. Bonomo, D.O.

87 Eastgate Drive, Suite 2 Sylva, NC 28779
Phone: 828-586-7672 Fax: 828-586-7624

March 28, 2011

DFS Health Planning
RECEIVED

MAR 29 2011

MEDICAL FACILITIES
PLANNING SECTION

Dr. Christopher G. Ulrich, Chair
Technology and Equipment Committee
c/o Medical Facilities Planning Section
Division of Health Service Regulation
2714 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2714

Carolina West Radiology requests that a new methodology be developed to determine the need for additional mobile PET scanners in the Western Region of North Carolina.

The Medical Facilities Planning Section determined no need for an additional mobile scanner in Western North Carolina for 2011. Jackson County is a rural area, and patients in Jackson County are underserved and often lack access to PET services. There is currently only one mobile PET scanner for 18 hospitals in Western North Carolina and it is operating at capacity. The current PET scanner in the Midwest Health System, located at Midwest Harris, receives mobile PET services only one day every other week. That can create a hardship for patients who are ill and are forced to travel long distances.

Carolina West Radiology believes that the proposed mobile PET methodology merits approval in order to provide equitable, consistent process for determining statewide need for additional mobile PET scanners.

Respectfully,

Frank Bonomo D.O.
Chief of Radiology

Al Wilson M.D.

Martha Anderson M.D.

A. Wilson / M. Anderson
personal communication