



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

September 12, 2005

Helmuth Gahbauer, M.D.
Medical Director
Saint Raphael Magnetic Resonance Center
330 Orchard Street
New Haven, CT 06511

Re: CON Determination Request; Report Number: 05-30540-DTR
Saint Raphael Magnetic Resonance Center
Proposal to Upgrade and Enhance the Center's Existing 1.5 Tesla-Strength MRI Scanner

Dear Dr. Gahbauer:

On June 30, 2005, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received a Certificate of Need Determination request regarding the Saint Raphael Magnetic Resonance Center's ("Center") proposal to upgrade and enhance its existing 1.5 tesla-strength magnet resonance imaging (MRI) scanner, at a proposed total capital cost of \$565,246. OHCA has reviewed the information contained in your request and makes the following findings:

1. Saint Raphael Magnetic Resonance Center ("Center") is a freestanding, for-profit imaging center located at 300 Orchard Street in New Haven, Connecticut.
2. The Center provides magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and magnetic resonance angiography services to individuals residing in the twenty-two towns that comprise the greater New Haven area.
3. The Center is proposing to upgrade and enhance its existing six year old Siemen's 1.5 tesla-strength Symphony MRI scanner. The upgrade and enhancements will allow the Center to bring the scanner to current technological standards.
4. The planned upgrade will allow for speedier exams and higher resolution of images produced through the following system improvements:
 - Bringing the MRI system from an eight channel receiver system to a thirty-two channel receiver system by adding additional electronic circuitry for the twenty-four additional radiofrequency channels; and

An Equal Opportunity Employer

410 Capitol Ave., MS#13HCA, P.O.Box 340308, Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Telephone: (860) 418-7001 Toll-Free: 1-800-797-9688

Fax: (860) 418-7053

- Adding new surface receiver coils for the head, spine, body and knee regions of the body.
5. The proposal does not constitute the establishment of a new or additional imaging service, nor is it considered within the scope of imaging equipment acquisition, as delineated in Public Act 05-93 of the Connecticut General Statutes.
 6. The total capital cost for the proposed project is \$565,246, which represents the fair market value associated with the equipment add-ons.
 7. The Center proposes to fund the proposal through a lease arrangement.
 8. The Center plans to have the scanner upgraded and operational by November 1, 2005.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that Certificate of Need approval is not required for the Saint Raphael Magnetic Resonance Center to upgrade and enhance its existing 1.5 tesla-strength MRI scanner.

Thank you for informing OHCA of your plans. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Jack A. Huber, OHCA Health Care Analyst, at (860) 418-7034.

Sincerely,

Signed by Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

Cc: AnnaMarie Rose, SRMR Center

CAV:jah