

STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

MEGAVOLTAGE RADIATION THERAPY (MRT) SERVICES/UNITS PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, November 8, 2005
Michigan Library and Historical Center
702 West Kalamazoo
Lansing MI

ORAL TESTIMONY

(Hearing scheduled to start at 10:00 a.m.; actual start time was 10:02 a.m.)

MS. ROGERS: Good morning, my name is Brenda Rogers. I am Special Assistant to the Certificate of Need Commission, and Chairperson Norma Hagenow has asked the department to conduct today's hearing.

We are here today to take testimony concerning potential language revisions to the Certificate of Need Review Standards for Megavoltage Radiation Therapy, otherwise known as MRT, Services/Units. The proposed CON Review Standards for MRT Services and Units are being reviewed and modified to include:

- ◆ the refinement of definitions;
- ◆ updating the need methodology based on current available data (i.e., duplication rates and factors);
- ◆ incorporate key terms in accordance with Public Act 619 of 2002 (i.e., definition of rural, Medicaid participation requirements, as well as others);
- ◆ require demonstration of qualified staff for applicants proposing to begin operation of an MRT service;
- ◆ modify volume requirements for applicants proposing to replace or upgrade an existing MRT unit;
- ◆ allow for provisions to acquire and relocate existing MRT units under certain conditions; and modify weights for treatment equivalents methodology, including IMRT.

Please be sure that you have signed the sign-in log. Copies of the proposed changes to the Review Standards can be found on the table. Comment cards are also on the table and need to be completed if you wish to provide testimony. Please hand your card to me if you wish to speak. Additionally, if you have written testimony, please provide a copy as well. Also please print your name on the sign-in sheet at the podium before you speak. As indicated on the Notice of Public Hearing, written testimony may be provided to the department through 5:00 o'clock November 15th, 2005. We will begin the hearing by taking testimony from those of you who wish to speak. The hearing will continue until all testimony has been given, at which time the hearing will adjourn. Today is Tuesday, November 8th, 2005, and we will begin taking testimony. Bob Meeker, with Spectrum Health?

MR. MEEKER: Good morning. My name is Bob Meeker from Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids. Spectrum Health would like to offer its support to the proposed changes to the standards for radiation -- for megavoltage radiation therapy, specifically the incorporation of the provisions of what used to be referred to as the "white paper." I think not only are they an improvement, but also formalize a procedure that's been used by the department for many years.

Secondly, the technical changes that include changes to the weights and inclusion of more up-to-date therapies like IMRT and IGRT, I think, bring the standards in line with the current practice of radiation therapy, and we support all the provisions of these standards.

MS. ROGERS: Thank you. I have no additional cards. Is there anyone else who would like to provide testimony on the MRT Standards? All right. It's 10:05. We're going to recess until 10:15, at which time we will reconvene to see if there is any further additional testimony. If there is none, then we will recess at that time. So we are now recessed until 10:15.

(Off the record)

MS. ROGERS: It is now 10:15. This Public Hearing is reconvened. Are there any additional comments regarding the MRT Services language? Okay. Hearing none, this Public Hearing on the MRT Standards is now adjourned. Thank you.

(Hearing concluded at approximately 10:17 a.m.)