CERTIFICATE OF NEED REVIEW STANDARDS FOR MEGAVOLTAGE RADIATION THERPAY (MRT) SERVICES SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES

Highlights of Proposed Changes

Section 1 - Applicability

• Section 1 modified only for consistency with other CON review standards.

Section 2 - Definitions

• A definition that is used only in a certain section has been moved to the applicable section to make it easier for the reader to identify the defined terms.

Section 3 – Modification of Appendices

• The department has updated Appendices A & B, using current data.

Section 4- Initiation of MRT Services (newly titled section)

- Current sections 4 and 10 were combined as these sections related to the initiation of an MRT service, as well as requirements for HMRT unit.
- The department has NOT modified the methodology for initiation.

Section 5- Replace Existing MRT Service/ Unit(s) (newly titled section)

- The replacement section will cover both the replacement of the unit as well as replacing the existing service to a new site.
- Replacement of a unit(s) will no longer require the applicant to meet a set volume requirement. Upgrades to existing MRT units will not require CON review/approval.
- Replacement of an existing service to a new site includes volume requirement.
- Replacement of an MRT unit from an existing site includes limitation on distance.

Section 6- Expand an MRT Service/Unit(s) (newly titled section)

• The department has not modified the current expansion language.

Section 7- Acquire an MRT Service/Unit (newly titled section)

• The department has added language outlining an exception to the volume requirement for an initial acquisition.

Section 8- Dedicated Research MRT Unit (newly titled section)

- No proposed changes to requirements that must be offered by the applicant to qualify for an MRT unit used exclusively for research. However, the department did limit the number of dedicated research MRT units at any one site (2), that the site must already offer MRT services and be meeting maintenance volume requirements.
- Language allowing for dedicated research MRT units to be used primarily for research purposes with the intent being that at least 70% will be dedicated research and no more than 30% clinical visits.

Section 9- Medicaid Participation (newly titled section)

• No changes proposed. Modification to section is to standardize language similar to other standards on Medicaid participation requirement.

Section 10- Methodology (newly titled section)

• The department has not modified ETV methodology except for the change noted under Section 11.

Section 11- Equivalent Treatment Visits (newly titled section)

• The department has adjusted the non-special visit weight for IMRT down from 2.50 to 1.75.

Section 12 &13- Commitment/Documentation of new Cancer Cases (newly titled section)

• The department has not modified the language for commitment or documentation found in the current standards.

Section 14- Project Delivery Requirements (newly titled section)

• Divided requirements into distinct groups: quality assurance, access to care, monitoring and reporting, and specialized services.

Section 15- Comparative Reviews (newly titled section)

• No language change proposed.