



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

July 2, 2004

Susan Santoro
Director, Program and Business Development
Norwalk Hospital
34 Maple Street
Norwalk, CT 06586

Re: Certificate of Need Determination, Report Number 04-30319-DTR
Norwalk Hospital
Mammography Equipment Replacement

Dear Ms. Santoro:

On June 22, 2004 and with additional information received on June 29, 2004, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received a Certificate of Need Determination request regarding Norwalk Hospital's mammography equipment replacement at a total expenditure of \$327,000. OHCA has reviewed the information contained in your request and makes the following findings:

1. Norwalk Hospital ("Hospital") is an acute care hospital located at 34 Maple Street, Norwalk, Connecticut.
2. The Hospital proposes to replace its existing analogue mammography unit with a state-of-the-art digital mammography unit.
3. The implementation of this new generation of mammography equipment could improve the patient care as follows:
 - a. Reduced call backs because image can be manipulated to enhance areas of over-exposure,
 - b. Tissue visibility at skin line is improve compared to film,
 - c. Lower dose in dense breast tissue compared to film,
 - d. Platform for future advance applications,
 - e. Improved image quality, and
 - f. Optimized departmental workflow (digital speed potentially facilitates efficiencies).

4. The total capital expenditure for the proposed project is \$327,000. This includes \$317,000 for equipment and \$10,000 for associated renovation expense.

5. The Hospital proposed to pay for this proposal through Hospital's equity.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that Certificate of Need approval is not required for Norwalk Hospital for mammography equipment replacement.

Thank you for letting OHCA know of your plans. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Steven Lazarus at Certificate of Need and Compliance, at OHCA at (860) 418-7001.

Sincerely,

Signed by Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

cc: Rose McLellan, Licensing Examination Assistant, DHSR, DPH

CAV:sl