

October 18, 2018

Ms. Donna Jerry  
Health Policy Analyst  
State of Vermont  
Green Mountain Care Board  
144 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05602

RE: Request for Jurisdiction Determination Regarding Unrelated Projects - Cardiac  
Clinic Nuclear Medicine Camera

Dear Donna:

Rutland Regional Medical (RRMC) submits this letter pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 9434(b)(2) and Green Mountain Care Board (GMCB) Rule 4.000 § 4.207 to request that the GMCB determine that RRMC's planned replacement of a cardiac nuclear medicine camera is not related to the Certificate of Need for the general nuclear medicine camera addressed in Docket No. GMCB-012-16con, and therefore does not fall within the GMCB's CON review jurisdiction.

The existing Docket No. GMCB-012-16con relates to a general nuclear medicine camera in the main hospital building located at 160 Allen Street. The camera is part of the hospital's core diagnostic imaging services that is used by numerous hospital departments and physician specialties as well as primary care physicians. This request relates to a cardiac nuclear medicine camera that would be located in the RRMC cardiology practice at the outpatient Rutland Heart Center, which is located at 12 Commons Street. The cardiac nuclear medicine camera would be a replacement for the existing 12-year old camera. The camera is used for cardiology nuclear stress testing. Nuclear stress testing is a vital clinical tool for cardiology treatment planning for outpatients with coronary artery disease to determine a patient's risk of heart attack or other cardiac event. The cost of the replacement camera will be \$478,894.

We are writing to confirm our understanding that the GMCB would view the replacement of our cardiac nuclear medicine camera as a separate and distinct project from the general nuclear medicine camera and, therefore, will not be included as part of the project scope and cost of the CoN project. In accordance with section 9434(b)(2), the cardiac nuclear medicine camera is *functionally independent* from the general nuclear medicine camera for a number of reasons including that the cameras are (1) physically located in different buildings; (2) used for different patient populations; and (3) used for different services. Also, in relation rule 4.207, the two cameras are *structurally*

unrelated to each other because they are located in different buildings. Also, the two cameras are *financially* unrelated to each other because the cardiac camera is used in an outpatient clinic for established cardiology patients and the general medical camera is used for hospital inpatients, emergency department patients and other general outpatient testing. Lastly, the two cameras serve distinct overall objectives as described herein. We are asking the GMCB to confirm our understanding of the related projects rule and determine that the cardiac nuclear medicine camera does not fall within the GMCB's CON review jurisdiction because it is not related to Docket No. GMCB-012-16con and, as an independent project, is below the CON threshold of \$1,500,000.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if we can provide additional information.

Respectfully submitted,



Claudio D. Fort  
President and Chief Executive Officer

CDF/bmr