

# **Health Planning Committee's Advanced Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Recommendations to the NYS Public Health and Health Planning Council**

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## **Advanced Medical Imaging**

### **Recommendations**

#### **1. Uniform Definition**

- Define advanced diagnostic imaging using the Federal definition as defined in the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008, modified as needed. Under section 135(b) of MIPPA, the term “advanced diagnostic imaging services” includes the following:
  - (i) diagnostic magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT), and nuclear medicine (including positron emission tomography (PET)); and
  - (ii) such other diagnostic imaging services (excluding X-ray, ultrasound, and fluoroscopy), as specified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services in consultation with physician specialty organizations and other stakeholders.

#### **2. Accreditation**

- Require Article 28 providers and private physician offices to meet third party accreditation standards for advanced imaging services by a national accreditation organization approved by the Department of Health.
- If a provider loses its accreditation status, require the provider and the accrediting body to report such change to the Department in a timely fashion.

#### **3. Provider and Public Education**

- The Department should work with provider associations to provide outreach and education to practitioners who prescribe CT scans, or other medical imaging studies as determined by the Department, regarding ionizing radiation and risks.
- The Department should promote public education campaigns on the benefits and risks of advanced medical imaging.

**4. Documentation of Total Number of CT Scans and Cumulative Radiation Dose**

- Investigate the technology that will enable health care providers to have access to the cumulative number of CT scans a patient has had in his or her lifetime, with the ultimate goal of quantifying the total radiation exposure per patient.

**5. Certificate of Need**

- Retain Certificate of Need (CON) requirements for Article 28 providers.

**6. Expanded Registration**

- Expand existing registration requirements for all Article 28 providers and private physician offices that have advanced medical imaging equipment or purchase new equipment to include the submission of data such as provider location, type of practice, practice size, services, and payer mix.
- The data would be collected and maintained by one point of contact in the Department.
- No more than three years after expanded registration/data submission is begun and data is analyzed, evaluate if any further actions are indicated.

**Regulatory Requirements**

- Amend Title 10, Part 16 regulations to add definition of advanced medical imaging.
- Revise Part 16 regulations to require all advanced medical imaging providers to obtain accreditation by accrediting organizations approved by the Department and use evidence-based guidelines.
- Revise Part 16 regulations to require all advanced medical imaging providers, including Article 28 providers and private physician offices, to submit expanded registration data to the Department.

## **Radiation Therapy**

### **Recommendations**

#### **1. Accreditation**

- Amend current third party accreditation requirements to require if a provider loses its accreditation, the provider and the accrediting body must report such change to the Department of Health in a timely fashion.

#### **2. Certificate of Need**

- Retain CON for Article 28 radiation therapy providers.

#### **3. Expanded Registration**

- Expand existing registration requirements for all Article 28 providers and private physician offices that have radiation therapy equipment or purchase new equipment to include the submission of data such as provider location, type of practice, practice size, services, and payer mix.
- The data would be collected and maintained by one point of contact in the Department.
- No more than three years after expanded registration/data submission is begun and data is analyzed, evaluate if any further actions are indicated.

### **Regulatory Requirements**

- Amend Title 10, Part 16 to require if a radiation therapy provider loses its accreditation, the provider and the accrediting body would be required to report such change to the Department of Health in a timely fashion.
- Revise Part 16 regulations to require all radiation therapy providers, including Article 28 providers and private physician offices, to submit expanded registration data to the Department.