



The William W. Backus
Hospital

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CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF
HEALTH CARE ACCESS

December 3, 2010

Kimberly Martone
Director of Operations
State of Connecticut
Department of Public Health
Office of Health Care Access Division
410 Capitol Avenue
Post Office Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

**Re: The William W. Backus Hospital
Termination of Groton Backus Outpatient Care Center**

Dear Ms. Martone:

Please allow this letter to serve as notice of the termination of the Groton Backus Outpatient Care Center ("GBOCC"), located at 85 Poheganut Drive in Groton.

The William W. Backus Hospital ("Backus") has provided diagnostic imaging services, including radiography, ultrasound, DEXA, and mammography, at the GBOCC since 2004. The GBOCC was established when Backus acquired the diagnostic imaging services of Women's Care Medical Center ("WCMC"). Diagnostic imaging services were the only services provided at the GBOCC. WCMC physician Carolyn Nesbitt was a member of the Backus Medical Staff and one of the primary referral sources for the GBOCC. Dr. Nesbitt passed away in August of 2008, and since her death there has been a steady decline in volume at the GBOCC.

Backus has decided to consolidate the diagnostic imaging services provided at the GBOCC with those services provided at the Montville Backus Health Center ("MBHC"), located at 80 Norwich-New London Turnpike in Uncasville.¹ The MBHC historically offered radiography and laboratory services on an outpatient basis. In December of 2009, OHCA approved the addition of ultrasound, DEXA and mammography services at this location (Docket No. 09-31504-DTR). Consolidating diagnostic imaging services at the MBHC is the most cost-effective means of providing these services to residents of the towns located in the southern portion of Backus' service area.

¹ On August 6, 2010, Backus notified OHCA of the relocation of the MBHC from 88 Norwich-New London Turnpike to 80 Norwich-New London Turnpike, effective September 13, 2010. At that same time, Backus notified OHCA of its intent to consolidate the GBOCC imaging services at the MBHC sometime after October 1, 2010.

Melanie A. Dillon
December 6, 2010
Page 2

Patients will have continued access to diagnostic imaging services at the MBHC, which is located approximately 9 miles north of the GBOCC, as well as at the Backus Diagnostic Imaging and Women's Center ("BDIWC") in Norwich. Like the GBOCC, the MBHC and the BDIWC are open five days per week (Mon. – Fri.). Together, they make available a full complement of diagnostic imaging services, including radiography, ultrasound, DEXA, digital mammography, fluoroscopy, open MRI, and CT. There is a section of the BDIWC dedicated solely to the imaging of women, which includes a private waiting room and digital mammography and ultrasound capabilities. Other providers of diagnostic imaging services in the Groton area able to accommodate former GBOCC patients include Lawrence & Memorial Hospital Pequot Center.

Thank you. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions about the termination of the Groton Backus Outpatient Care Center.

Very truly yours,



Lester Temkin
Vice President, Clinical Operations

cc: Jennifer L. Groves, Esq.