

## **DIFSCOM Recommendations**

### **PET Recommendations**

- Maintain the following standards:
  - 60-minute drive-time standard;
  - Requirement that hospitals which have radiation therapy services have 850 PET- appropriate cases;
  - 230 PET- or PET/CT-appropriate patients seen by mobile PET unit standard; and
  - 1,400 procedures for conversion of mobile to fixed-site PET scanner standard.
- New fixed-site PET scanner and expansion of fixed-site PET services:
  - lower utilization from 6,000 procedures to 2,500 procedures
- Staffing standard: include individuals trained in the use of a PET scanner, which may include any of the professions listed in 18VAC85-101.
- Additional recommendations to comply with Chapter 397 of the 2025 Acts of Assembly
  - Addition of a PET scanner to serve a medical desert as defined is exempt from volume standards as long as:
    - The PET scanner is at least 30 miles from the next closest PET scanner.

### **MRI Recommendations**

- Maintain the following standards:
  - 30-minute drive-time standard
  - 2,400 procedure mobile MRI scanner standard
  - 3,000 procedures for conversion of a mobile MRI to a fixed-site scanner standard
- New fixed-site MRI scanners: lower from 5,000 procedures to 4,500.
- Expansion of fixed-site MRI scanner: lower from 5,000 procedures to 4,500.
- Staffing standard: include individuals trained in the use of a MRI scanner.
- Additional recommendations to comply with Chapter 397 of the 2025 Acts of Assembly
  - Addition of an MRI scanner to serve a medical desert as defined is exempt from volume standards as long as:

- The MRI scanner is at least 30 miles from the next closest MRI scanner.

### **CT Recommendations**

- Maintain the following standards:
  - 30-minute drive time standard.
  - 7,400 average scan standards for new or expanded fixed site service that are hospital-based or have emergency services.
  - 4,800 average scan standards for new or expanded site service in Freestanding Diagnostic Imaging Centers.
  - Volume exemption for simulation of radiation therapy treatment.
  - 4,800 average scan standards for mobile CT scanner standards for addition of services.
  - 6,000 average scan standards for conversion of mobile to fixed site CT scanner.
- Expand volume exemption to operating room-based CT scanners and image guided procedures.
- Change staffing standard to include individuals trained in the use of a CT scanner, which may include any of the professions listed in 18VAC85-101.
- Specify definitions of scan, visit, institutional need, and site of service in the SHSP.
- Additional recommendations to comply with Chapter 397 of the 2025 Acts of Assembly
  - Addition of a CT scanner to serve a medical desert as defined is exempt from volume standards as long as:
    - The CT scanner is at least 30 miles from the next closest CT scanner.