

Contact: Jean Friedrich

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA – EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

Action Requested: Consider approval of the equipment purchase of a 1.5 Tesla Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) System at an estimated cost of \$2,168,883 to replace an existing 1.5 Tesla MRI system installed in 1988.

Executive Summary:

The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC) requests approval to proceed with the purchase of a high field 1.5 Tesla MRI system to replace an existing 1.5 Tesla MRI system installed in 1988. The existing system is now beyond its useful life, has limited capabilities which affect the quality of exams the hospital can provide to patients, and is experiencing significant downtime for repairs, resulting in increased maintenance costs to keep it running. The source of funding for this purchase will be UIHC funds for capital equipment acquisition during FY 2006. The MRI system would be purchased from Siemens Medical Solutions. The UIHC has a contract with Siemens that was executed after a competitive bidding process involving eight vendors resulted in a five year “Strategic Alliance” for purchase of imaging equipment. This purchasing agreement provides the UIHC with extremely competitive pricing and other benefits.

The replacement 1.5 Tesla MRI system will be sited in the existing MRI Center located in the lower level of the John Colloton Pavilion. Renovation to install this system is part of a current approved project to renovate the MRI Center to increase patient MRI service capacity.

The MRI system installed in 1988 can not support the growth experienced during the past few years. MR studies performed during the last two years have increased by 17% in 2003 and 10% in 2004. A new scanner will reduce the duration of typical scans from 45 to 30 minutes which will also reduce patient discomfort. The new state-of-the-art Siemens scanner also provides the ability to perform several new services including cardiac imaging, whole body angiographic studies, and MR spectroscopy. The ability to perform these services will keep the UIHC at the forefront of MR imaging.

Chapter 7.05B(12) of the Regent Policy Manual requires that:

- Equipment costing more than \$1,000,000 must be submitted to the Board for approval; and
- Requests submitted to the Board Office for approval must include the following information:
 - Description of the equipment;
 - Justification of the need for the equipment;
 - Any known alternatives to the equipment proposed; and
 - Estimated cost and source of funding.