

Miller, Diane M. (CDC/NIOSH/EID)

From: Jeffery Richmond [jrichmond@deltahospital.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2011 3:41 PM
To: NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)
Subject: 215 - NIOSH Guideline: Application of Digital Radiography for the Detection and Classification of Pneumoconiosis
Attachments: PROCESSOR.xls

To: NIOSH
From: Delta County Memorial Hospital

I have attached a document that shows how much money this facility has spent on maintenance costs for our film processor. As you can see, we average nearly \$1,200.00 monthly to maintain this processor. We do approximately 10 chest exams per month for the mines.

In May of 2009 the radiology department went completely digital with the purchase of a digital mammography system. We decided to keep the processor running in order to provide the local mines radiology services. We were told that NIOSH was in the process of converting the screening chest and pre-employment chest xrays to a digital process that would be completed sometime in the Spring of 2010. It is now February, 2011 and we are still having to use the processor to develop film.

As the months go by there are fewer and fewer facilities willing to maintain their processors for the sole purpose of providing this service for the miners. We have been the exception for western Colorado and would like to continue our support for the local mines. Unfortunately, with the cost of maintaining a processor, we may not be able to continue this service for a long period of time.

DCMH is willing to participate in any testing, provide any input, or do whatever is requested to move to Digital Radiography for the Detection and Classification of Pneumoconiosis as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Jeff Richmond
Radiology Director
Delta County Memorial Hospital
Delta, Colorado 81416
970-874-2289

Confidentiality Notice: This e-mail is confidential, may be legally privileged, and for the intended recipient only. Access, disclosure, copying, forwarding and distribution by any means is strictly prohibited. If received in error, do not read but delete and email confirmation to the sender.

FILM PROCESSOR CHARGES - POST DIGITAL MAMMOGRAPHY

MONTH	CHARGES
MAY OF 2009	596.72 3,737.14
JUNE OF 2009	168 1,975.04
JULY OF 2009	168.88 389.62
AUGUST OF 2009	1,313.26
SEPT. OF 2009	673.92
OCT. OF 2009	533 357.98 587.77
DEC. OF 2009	526.74
JAN. OF 2010	1,371.20
FEB. OF 2010	220.25
MARCH OF 2010	557.21
APRIL OF 2010	682.93
MAY OF 2010	439.37
JULY OF 2010	320.45 1,210.35
AUG. OF 2010	220.25
SEPT. OF 2010	874.94
NOV. 2010	511.43
DEC. 2010	840.75
JAN. 2011	1923.63
FEB. 2011	1729.78 634.95 2462.45
TOTAL	25,028.01

MONTHLY AVERAGE 1,191.81