

## **Constantino, Mike**

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**From:** Moon, Shawn K [skmoon@uhl.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 21, 2011 10:53 AM  
**To:** Constantino, Mike  
**Subject:** U.S. Renal Care Bolingbrook Dialysis, U.S. Renal Care Oak Brook Dialysis, and U.S. Renal Care Streamwood Dialysis Support Letter  
**Attachments:** UIC Transplant Support Letter.pdf

Good Morning Mike,

Please find the attached PDF copy of a support letter written by Dr. Jose Oberholzer, Chief of the Division of Transplantation at the University of Illinois at Chicago. This letter is written in support of the U.S. Renal Care Bolingbrook Dialysis, U.S. Renal Care Oak Brook Dialysis, and U.S. Renal Care Streamwood Dialysis certificate of need applications, project numbers 11-025, 11-024 and 11-026, respectively.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

Thanks,

Shawn

### **Shawn Kenneth Moon**

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Transplant Center  
University of Illinois Medical Center at Chicago

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September 21, 2011

Ms. Courtney R. Avery  
Administrator, Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson, Second Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

**RE: Project No. 11-024, U.S. Renal Care Oak Brook Dialysis**  
**Project No. 11-025, U.S. Renal Care Bolingbrook Dialysis**  
**Project No. 11-026, U.S. Renal Care Streamwood Dialysis**

Dear Ms. Avery:

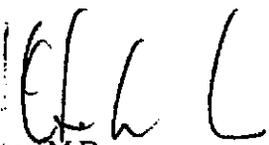
My name is Dr. Jose Oberholzer and I am the Chief of the Division of Transplantation at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). I am also Professor of Surgery, Endocrinology and Biology at UIC. I write to you today to offer my full support of U.S. Renal Care's plans to open dialysis facilities in Bolingbrook, Oakbrook and Streamwood. I support the dialysis facilities because I know there is a growing need for such services. But more importantly, I support these facilities because the physicians affiliated with them are guided by a strong philosophy that transplantation is the best treatment options for patients with end stage renal disease.

While this may seem like a given, unfortunately, that's not always the case. My role as a transplant surgeon has afforded me the opportunity to work with many nephrologists from a plethora of institutions. I can tell you that all too often, given their position and the medical service they offer, many nephrologists consider transplants to be somewhat of a conflict. Some tend to wait a long time before putting their patients on the donor waiting list when they should have been listed right from the start. Inevitably, these patients need transplants and they sit on dialysis for years as they wait for their name to be called.

I am currently working with Drs. Rauf and Ahmed to host a transplant class this fall to provide counsel to patients as they consider their options and what transplantation means to them. The physicians' commitment to doing what's in the best interest of the patient and their quality of life is evident.

I also want to mention that I am the coordinator of the Chicago Diabetes Project, which is a unique international coalition of interdisciplinary scientists working together for a functional cure of diabetes, which leads to kidney impairment. As pointed out in a front page Chicago Sun Times article this week, diabetes is "a public health emergency in slow motion" and there is a shortage of health care specialists and resources to treat the explosion of diabetes cases expected in the Chicagoland area in the coming years. The time to commit those resources is now. Please do what's in the best interest of patients and approve these needed dialysis facilities. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Jose Oberholzer, M.D.  
Professor of Surgery, Endocrinology and Biology  
Chief, Division of Transplantation