

certification process; *Frequency*: Bi-annually; *Affected Public*: Business or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions, Federal government, and State, local, or tribal government; *Number of Respondents*: 16,000; *Total Annual Responses*: 16,000; *Total Annual Hours*: 20,000.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access CMS's Web site address at <http://cms.hhs.gov/regulations/pract/default.asp>, or e-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and CMS document identifier, to paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 60 days of this notice directly to the CMS Paperwork Clearance Officer designated at the following address: CMS, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Division of Regulations Development and Issuances, Attention: Melissa Musotto, Room C5-14-03, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

Dated: April 1, 2004.

Melissa Musotto,

Acting, Paperwork Reduction Act Team Leader, Office of Strategic Operations and Strategic Affairs, Division of Regulations Development and Issuances.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

[Document Identifier: CMS-R-131]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) (formerly known as the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any

of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

1. *Type of Information Collection Request*: Extension of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection*: Advanced Beneficiary Notice and Supporting Regulations in 42 CFR 411.404, 411.406, and 411.408; *Form No.*: CMS-R-131 (OMB# 0938-0566); *Use*: Physicians, practitioners, suppliers, and providers furnishing Part A or Part B items or services may bill a patient for items of services denied by Medicare as not reasonable and necessary, under Medicare program standards (section 1862(a)(1) of title XVIII of the Social Security Act (the Act), or under one of several other statutory bases (section 1862(a)(9), section 1814(a)(2)(C), section 1835(a)(2)(A), section 1861(dd)(3)(A), section 1834(j)(1), section 1834(a)(15), and section 1834(a)(17)(B) of the Act), if they informed the patient, prior to furnishing the items or services and the patient, after being so informed, agreed to pay for the items or services; *Frequency*: As-needed; *Affected Public*: Business or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions, and individuals or households; *Number of Respondents*: 1,084,932; *Total Annual Responses*: 21,171,480; *Total Annual Hours*: 1,764,290.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access CMS Web site address at <http://cms.hhs.gov/regulations/pract/default.asp>, or e-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and CMS document identifier, to Paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 30 days of this notice directly to the OMB desk officer: OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, Attention: Brenda Aguilar, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503. Fax: (202) 395-6929.

Dated: April 1, 2004.

Melissa Musotto,

Acting Paperwork Reduction Act Team Leader, CMS Reports Clearance Officer, Office of Strategic Operations and Strategic Affairs, Division of Regulations Development and Issuances.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Privacy Act of 1974; Computer Matching Program (CMS Match No. 2004-03)

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

ACTION: Notice of computer matching program.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, this notice announces a computer matching agreement between CMS and the Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service (IRS). We have provided background information about the proposed matching program in the "Supplementary Information" section below. Although the Privacy Act requires only that CMS provide an opportunity for interested persons to comment on the proposed matching program, CMS invites comments on all portions of this notice. See "Effective Dates" section below for comment period.

EFFECTIVE DATES: CMS filed a report of the Computer Matching Program with the Chair of the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, the Chair of the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, and the Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on April 6, 2004. We will not disclose any information under a matching agreement until the later of 40 days after filing a report to OMB and Congress or 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**. We may defer implementation of this matching program if we receive comments that persuade us to defer implementation.

ADDRESSES: The public should address comments to: Director, Division of Privacy Compliance Data Development (DPCDD), Enterprise Databases Group, Office of Information Services, CMS, Mail stop N2-04-27, 7500 Security