

Dated: August 11, 2005.

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Acting Reports Clearance Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

[30Day-05-0680]

**Proposed Data Collections Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publishes a list of information collection requests under review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). To request a copy of these requests, call the CDC Reports Clearance Officer at (404) 371-5983 or send an e-mail to *omb@cdc.gov*. Send written comments to CDC Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC or by fax to (202) 395-6974. Written comments should be received within 30 days of this notice.

**Proposed Project**

Model Performance Evaluation Program (MPEP), Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) MPEP

OMB No. 0920-0680—Revision— Division of Laboratory Systems, Center for Health Information and Services (CoCHIS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

*Background and Brief Description*

To support our mission of improving public health and preventing disease through continuously improving laboratory practices, the Model Performance Evaluation Program (MPEP), Division of Public Health Partnerships, Coordinating Center for Health Information and Services, in collaboration with the Coordinating Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, intends to provide a new SARS-associated Coronavirus testing Model Performance Evaluation Program (SARS MPEP). This program will offer external performance evaluation (PE) for SARS antibody (Ab) testing and SARS Ribonucleic Acid (RNA) Reverse Transcriptase—Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) testing. A SARS outbreak or epidemic could recur at any time. Therefore, it is imperative that the CDC ensure all state public health department laboratories, Laboratory Response Network laboratories and other laboratories designated by CDC remain proficient in performing SARS testing. For this reason, it is of critical public health importance at this time, that the CDC develop and maintain a performance evaluation program for SARS. Participation in PE programs is

expected to lead to improved SARS testing performance because participants have the opportunity to identify areas for improvement which will help to ensure accurate testing as a basis for development of SARS prevention and intervention strategies.

This external quality assessment program will be made available at *no cost* (for receipt of sample panels) to 54 state laboratories. This program will offer laboratories/testing sites opportunities for:

- (1) assuring that the laboratories/testing sites are providing accurate tests through external quality assessment,
- (2) improving testing quality through self-evaluation in a nonregulatory environment,
- (3) testing well characterized samples from a source outside the test kit manufacturer,
- (4) discovering potential testing problems so that laboratories/testing sites can adjust procedures to eliminate them,
- (5) comparing individual laboratory/testing site results to others at state level, and
- (6) consulting with CDC staff to discuss testing issues.

Participants in the MPEP SARS will be required to submit results twice a year after testing mailed performance evaluation samples.

There are no costs to the respondents other than their time. The total estimated annualized burden hours are 18.

**ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS**

Form name	No. of respondents	Frequency of responses	Average burden per response (in hours)
SARS Testing Results Booklet .....	54	2	10/60

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

[60Day-05-05CS]

**Proposed Data Collections Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations**

In compliance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects. To

request more information on the proposed projects or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, call 404-371-5983 and send comments to Seleda Perryman, CDC Assistant Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road, MS-D74, Atlanta, GA 30333 or send an e-mail to *omb@cdc.gov*.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be