

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Meeting of the National Vaccine Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Secretary.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As stipulated by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is hereby giving notice that the National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC) will hold a meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on June 1, 2004, from 9 am to 3:30 pm, and on June 2, 2004, from 9 am to 3:15 pm.

ADDRESSES: Department of Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, Room 705A, SW., Washington, DC 20201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Ms. Emma English, Program Analyst, National Vaccine Program Office, Department of Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, Room 725H, SW., Washington, DC 20201; (202) 690-5566.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 2101 of the Public Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300aa-1), the Secretary of Health and Human Services was mandated to establish the National Vaccine Program (NVP) to achieve optimal prevention of human infectious diseases through immunization and to achieve optimal prevention against adverse reactions to vaccines. The Secretary designated the Assistant Secretary for Health to serve as the Director, NVP. The National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC) was established to provide advice and make recommendations to the Director, NVP, on matters related to the program's responsibilities.

Topics to be discussed at the meeting include: Pandemic Influenza and the Pandemic Influenza Response and Preparedness Plan, the NVAC Influenza Working Group's preliminary assessment of domestic influenza issues/needs, and the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) vaccine safety review. Updates will be given on the NVAC Working Group on Public Participation and from the NVAC Vaccine Safety and Communications Subcommittee, the NVAC Futures Vaccines Subcommittee, and the NVAC Immunization Coverage Subcommittee. A tentative agenda will

be made available May 20 for review on the NVPO Web site, <http://www.dhhs.gov/nvpo>.

Public attendance at the meeting is limited to space available. Individuals must provide a photo ID for entry into the Humphrey Building. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the designated contact person. Members of the public will have the opportunity to provide comments at the meeting. Public comment will be limited to five minutes per speaker. Any members of the public who wish to have printed material distributed to NVAC members should submit materials to the Executive Secretary, NVAC, whose contact information is listed above prior to close of business May 25, 2004. Preregistration is required for both public attendance and comment. Any individual who wishes to attend the meeting and/or participate in the public comment session should email nvac@osophs.dhhs.gov.

Dated: May 10, 2004.

Bruce G. Gellin,

Director, National Vaccine Program Office, and Executive Secretary, National Vaccine Advisory Committee.

[FR Doc. 04-11033 Filed 5-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4150-28-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Program Announcement 04126]

Vital Statistics Re-engineering Program; Notice of Intent To Fund Single Eligibility Award

A. Purpose

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the intent to fund fiscal year (FY) 2004 funds for a cooperative agreement program to enhance the ability of state-owned vital statistics systems to provide timely and high quality information to the National Vital Statistics System based on the newly-approved U.S. Standard Certificate for Birth and Death and the Report of Fetal Death. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number for this program is 93.066.

B. Eligible Applicant

Assistance will be provided only to a public or private non-profit organization whose primary mission is the support of state vital statistics and vital records

programs. The National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) is one component of NCHS's health data collection program.

NCHS operates this System to fulfill its legislatively mandated mission to produce national vital statistics based on data from the nation's birth and death records. The NVSS is a cooperative, decentralized system in which data from over 6 million vital event records are collected each year by all states and U.S. territories and transmitted to the NCHS for processing and analysis. These records are state-owned and are provided through state-owned and operated registration systems. No federal constitutional mandate or law exists requiring states to collect and/or report birth and death information to NCHS.

Consequently, the collection of registration-based vital statistics at the national level depends on a cooperative relationship between states and the federal government. Since 1933, NAPHSIS and its predecessor organizations have collectively represented the states on policy and other agreements with the federal government. It is a professional, non-profit organization whose members include primarily, but not exclusively, the vital statistics registration executives and other employees of state registration offices. In addition to providing the states and territories with a common point of contact with the federal government, NAPHSIS also facilitates inter-state exchange of ideas, methods, and technology for the registration of vital events and dissemination of vital and other public health statistics. Since the inception of the NVSS Program, NAPHSIS has been the only national group whose decisions fully reflect the views of the state vital records offices and, accordingly, the state vital records office, generally adhere to NAPHSIS' policy and program decisions. As further evidence of its unique role with state vital statistics offices, NAPHSIS negotiates with NCHS on behalf of the states about the deliverables, schedule, quality, and other aspects of data provided for the NVSS. NAPHSIS is one of the affiliates of the Association of State and Territorial Health Organization.

Over the past two years, NCHS has jointly worked with NAPHSIS to develop national, model standards and guidelines for how states may best re-engineer their vital records systems to meet state and federal needs. Those standards and guidelines will be available in early 2004, when the task shifts to motivating each state and territory to implement standards-based systems. The implementation of re-