

Network (OMB No. 0920—0636)—Extension Epidemiology Program Office (EPO), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Great attention has been focused on improving secure public health communications networks for the dissemination of critical disease outbreak and/or bioterrorism-related events, which may have multi-jurisdictional involvement and cause disease and death within a short time-frame. A central component of the mission of the CDC's Epidemiology Program Office (EPO) is to strengthen the nation's public health infrastructure by coordinating public health surveillance at CDC and providing domestic and international support through scientific communications and terrorism preparedness and emergency response. The Office of Scientific and Health Communication's Epidemic Information Exchange (Epi-X) provides CDC and its state and local partners and collaborators with a secure public

health communications network intended for routine and emergent information exchange in a secure environment.

The purpose of the information gathered during this notification proficiency testing exercise is to evaluate the extent to which new registrants and currently authorized users of the Epidemic Information Exchange (Epi-X) are able to utilize alert notification functionality to minimize or prevent unnecessary injury or disease-related morbidity and mortality through the use of secure communications and rapid notification systems. In this case, notification alerts would be sent to targeted public health professionals through a "barrage" of office cell phone, home telephone, and pager calls to rapidly inform key health authorities from multidisciplinary backgrounds and multiple jurisdictions of evolving and critical public health information, and assist with the decision making process. Presently, the necessity of this

evaluation process is timely because of ongoing terrorism threats and acts perpetrated worldwide.

The survey information will be gathered through an online questionnaire format, and help evaluate user comprehension and facility solely with the targeted notification and rapid alerting functionalities of Epi-X. The questionnaire will consist of both closed- and open-ended items, and will be administered through Zoomerang, an online questionnaire program, or as a last resort, by telephone. Approximately 6,000 Epi-X users from every state of the union will be asked to volunteer input (in a 5–10 question format) about their experiences using the alert notification functionalities of the Epi-X communications system. There will be no cost to respondents, whose participation will be strictly voluntary. The estimated annualized burden is 500 hours.

Respondents	No. of respondents	No. of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hrs)	Total burden hours
State Epidemiologists and critical state public health emergency responders ...	2000	1	15/60	500
Total	2000	500

Dated: June 2, 2004.

Alvin Hall,

Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[60Day–04–61]

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 the CDC Reports Clearance Officer on (404) 498–1210.

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 collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Send comments to Sandra Gambescia, CDC Assistant Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road, MS–E11, Atlanta, GA 30333 or send an e-mail to omb@cdc.gov. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Proposed Project

Survey of Public Health Laboratories regarding Volume and Type of STD Laboratory Testing Methods—New—National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHSTP), Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CDC is requesting OMB approval to survey public health laboratories about the volume of testing and type of laboratory testing methods for sexually transmitted diseases (STD).

In October 2002, CDC published "Screening Tests to Detect Chlamydia trachomatis and Neisseria gonorrhoeae Infections," (MMWR 2002:51, No. RR–15). The purpose of this publication was to provide information for public health laboratories regarding the most effective testing methodologies for *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. Because testing practices could affect the resources available to public health departments for STD screening and surveillance programs, it is critical to monitor the capacity and current practices of public health laboratories to appropriately test for these diseases.

The objectives of this proposed data collection are to: (1) Collect information about the volume of and type of testing for chlamydia and gonorrhea during calendar year 2003; (2) collect information about antimicrobial susceptibility testing for gonorrhea; and (3) collect information about the volume and type of testing for herpes simplex

virus (HSV), syphilis, human papillomavirus (HPV), bacterial vaginosis, and trichomoniasis performed in laboratories in calendar year 2003. This survey will build on data collected in 2001 by the

Association of Public Health Laboratories on laboratory test methods and the volume of testing.

CDC anticipates collecting this data using an on-line survey of 140 public health laboratories. The survey will take

approximately 20 minutes to complete. The only cost to respondents is their time to complete the survey.

ANNUALIZED BURDEN TABLE

Respondents	No. of respondents	No. of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden hours
Public Health Laboratories	140	1	20/60	47
Total				47

Dated: June 3, 2004.

Alvin Hall,

Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Program Announcement 04070]

National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care; 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 continue the support of the Tuskegee University National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care, and to provide funds to support the Center's mission to become the premier provider and promoter of interdisciplinary instruction, research, and community outreach by engaging institutions, individuals, health care providers, communities, and the media on bioethics-related issues of importance to African Americans and other people of color. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number for this program is 93.283 and 93.977.

B. Eligible Applicant

Assistance will be provided only to Tuskegee University. The Tuskegee University National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care is the only bioethics center that focuses on issues related to bioethics, minority health, and public health. The new project will continue to support the Center's mission to become a premier provider and

promoter of interdisciplinary instruction, research, and community outreach by engaging institutions, individuals, health care providers, communities, and the media on bioethics-related issues of importance to African Americans and other people of color.

C. Funding

Approximately \$2,000,000 is available in FY 2004 to fund this award. It is expected that the award will begin on or before June 1, 2004 and will be made for a 12-month budget period within a project period of up to five years. Funding estimates may change.

D. Where To Obtain Additional Information

For general comments or questions about this announcement, contact: Technical Information Management, CDC Procurement and Grants Office, 2920 Brandywine Road, Atlanta, GA 30341-4146, Telephone: 770-488-2700.

For technical questions about this program, contact: Bryan K. Lindsey, PhD, Project Officer, 1600 Clifton Road NE., MS E-07, Atlanta, GA 30333, Telephone: 404-639-6299, E-mail: Blindsey@cdc.gov.

Dated: June 3, 2004.

William P. Nichols,

Acting Director, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Program Announcement 04099]

Requests for Applications To Determine the Pharmacokinetics of Clostridium Botulinum Neurotoxins A, B, C, E, and F; Notice of Availability of Funds—Amendment

A notice announcing the availability of fiscal year (FY) 2004 funds for a cooperative agreement, Requests for Applications to Determine the Pharmacokinetics of Clostridium Botulinum Neurotoxins A, B, C, E, and F, was published in the **Federal Register** Friday, May 14, 2004, Volume 69, Number 94, pages 26836-26841. The notice is amended as follows: Page 26837, third column, fifth paragraph, under Activities, the sentence "Awardee activities for this program but are not limited to the following;" should be changed to read, "Awardee activities for this program are as follows:".

Dated: June 3, 2004.

William P. Nichols,

Acting Director, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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