Health Maintenance Organization (HMO).

The data to be collected for this project will be in two forms: (a) answers to a screener questionnaire designed to identify and recruit eligible participants, and (b) verbal reports—i.e., focus group participants' answers to questions posed by the moderator and reactions to comments of other group members. The focus group discussions will be audio-taped with participants' consent and transcribed for analysis purposes.

Method of Collection

Participants will be screened for eligibility and recruited for the focus groups by telephone. The focus group sessions will be conducted in-person with approximately 10 persons per group. The focus group discussion will take approximately 2 hours, and we have assumed a 20-minute travel time (each way) per participant. Thus, focus group participation will require 2.67 hours per response.

Estimated Annual Respondent Burden

TABLE 1.—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Hours per response	Total burden hours
Recruiting Screener	2,200	1	5/60	183
Focus Group Discussion Guide	220	1	2.67	587
Total	2,420	na	na	770

TABLE 2.—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST BURDEN

Form name	Number of respondents	Total burden hours	Average hourly wage rate*	Total cost burden
Recruiting Screener	2,200	183	$17	$3,111
Focus Group Discussion Guide	220	587	17	9,979
Total	2,420	770	na	13,090

*Based upon the mean hourly wage of full-time workers, third-quarter of 2007. Current Population Survey, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Estimated Annual Costs to the Federal Government

Based on the current budget for the project, the total cost to the Federal Government is $257,474 ($251,114 of contractor costs + $6,360 of travel and time cost for AHRQ employees) for the 18-month period from Oct. 1st, 2007 to March 31st, 2009. The annualized cost is approximately $171,649. This amount includes all direct and indirect costs of the design, data collection, analysis, and reporting phases of the study. The costs of Federal employees for monitoring the contract are $5,660.

Request for Comments

In accordance with the above-cited Paperwork Reduction Act legislation, comments on AHRQ's information collection are requested with regard to any of the following: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of AHRQ health care research and health care information dissemination functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of AHRQ's estimate of burden (including hours and costs) of the proposed collection(s) 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 upon the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the Agency's subsequent request for OMB approval of the proposed information collection. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 17, 2007.

Carolyn M. Clancy,

Director.

[FR Doc. 07–6188 Filed 12–27–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–90–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency For Healthcare Research and Quality

Notice of Meeting

In accordance with section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C., Appendix 2), announcement is made of a Health Care Policy and Research Special Emphasis Panel (SEP) meeting.

A Special Emphasis Panel is a group of experts in fields related to health care research who are invited by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), and agree to be available, to conduct on an as needed basis, scientific reviews of applications for AHRQ support. Individual members of the Panel do not attend regularly-scheduled meetings and do not serve for fixed terms or a long period of time. Rather, they are asked to participate in particular review meetings which require their type of expertise.

Substantial segments of the upcoming SEP meeting listed below will be closed to the public in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, section 10(d) of 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2 and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6). Grant applications for the Announcement of Availability of Funds for Grants regarding National Research Service Award Institutional Research Training Grant (T32) applications are to be reviewed and discussed at this meeting. These discussions are likely to reveal personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications. This information is exempt from mandatory disclosure under the above-cited statutes.

SEP Meeting on: National Research Service Award Institutional Research Training Grant (T32) applications.

Date: January 31–February 1, 2008 (Open on January 31 from 8:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and closed for the remainder of the meeting).

Place: Gaithersburg Marriott Washingtonian Center, Marriott

Conference Center, 9751 Washingtonian Blvd., Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

Contact Person: Anyone wishing to obtain a roster of members, agenda or minutes of the non-confidential portions of this meeting should contact Mrs. Bonnie Campbell, Committee Management Officer, Office of Extramural Research, Education and Priority Populations, AHRQ, 540 Gaither Road, Room 2038, Rockville, Maryland 20850, Telephone (301) 427–1554.

Agenda items for this meeting are subject to change as priorities dictate.

Dated: December 19, 2007.

Carolyn M. Clancy,

Director.

[FR Doc. 07–6216 Filed 12–27–07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

[ATSDR–237]

Identification Of Priority Data Needs for Six Priority Hazardous Substances

AGENCY: Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Request for public comments on the identification of priority data needs for six priority hazardous substances and an ongoing call for voluntary research proposals.

SUMMARY: This notice makes available for public comment the priority data needs for six priority hazardous substances (see Table 1) as part of the continuing development and implementation of the ATSDR Substance-Specific Applied Research Program (SSARP). The notice also serves as a continuous call for voluntary research proposals.

The exposure and toxicity priority data needs in this notice were distilled from the data needs identified in ATSDR's toxicological profiles by the logical scientific approach described in a decision guide published in the **Federal Register** on September 11, 1989 (54 FR 37618). The priority data needs represent essential information to improve the database for conducting public health assessments. Research to address these priority data needs will help to determine the types or levels of exposure that may present significant risks of adverse health effects in people exposed to the hazardous substances.

The priority data needs identified in this notice reflect the opinion of ATSDR, in consultation with other federal programs, about the research needed pursuant to ATSDR's authority under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (Superfund), or CERCLA, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA) [42 U.S.C. 9604(i)]. The needs identified here do not represent the priority data needs for any other agency or program.

Consistent with Section 104(i)(12) of CERCLA as amended [42 U.S.C. 9604(i)(12)], nothing in this research program shall be construed to delay or otherwise affect or impair the President, the Administrator of ATSDR, or the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from exercising any authority regarding any other provision of law, including the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976 (TSCA) and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act of 1972 (FIFRA), or the response and abatement authorities of CERCLA.

ATSDR worked with other federal programs to determine common substance-specific data needs and mechanisms to implement research that may include authorities under TSCA and FIFRA, private-sector voluntarism, or the direct use of CERCLA funds.

When deciding the type of research that should be done, ATSDR considers the recommendations of the Interagency Testing Committee (ITC) established under Section 4(e) of TSCA. Federally funded projects that collect information from 10 or more respondents and that are funded by cooperative agreements are subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act. If the proposed project involves research on human subjects, the applicants must comply with Department of Health and Human Services regulations (45 CFR part 46) regarding the protection of human subjects. The applicants must assure that the project will be subject to initial and continuing review by the appropriate institutional review committees. Overall, by providing additional scientific information for the risk assessment process, data generated from this research will support other researchers who are conducting human health assessments involving these six substances.

Table 1 presents the priority data needs for six priority substances. The six substances are included in the ATSDR Priority List of Hazardous Substances (70 FR 72840, December 7, 2005). ATSDR invites comments from the public on the individual priority data needs and the priority data needs documents for these substances. After considering the comments, ATSDR will publish the final priority data needs for each substance. These priority data needs will be addressed by the mechanisms described in the ''Implementation of Substance-Specific Applied Research Program'' section of this **Federal Register** Notice.

TABLE 1.—SUBSTANCE-SPECIFIC PRIORITY DATA NEEDS FOR SIX PRIORITY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Substance	Priority data needs
Aluminum	Exposure levels in humans living near hazardous waste sites. Exposure levels in children. Dose-response data for acute-duration(1) oral exposure.
Cresol	Exposure levels in humans living near hazardous waste sites. Exposure levels in children. Dose-response data for acute-duration(1) oral exposure.
Diazinon	Developmental toxicity data for oral exposure.
Dichloropropenes	Dose-response data for acute-duration(1) inhalation exposure. Immunotoxicity battery via inhalation exposure.
Guthion	Studies of developmental toxicity via oral exposure with emphasis on neurodevelopmental toxicity.
Phenol	Exposure levels in humans living near hazardous waste sites. Exposure levels in children. Two-year oral carcinogenicity bioassay.

(1) 14 days or less.