

Request for Comments

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, 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: September 27, 2012.

Carolyn M. Clancy,
Director.

[FR Doc. 2012-24454 Filed 10-4-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality****Meeting of the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality**

AGENCY: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), HHS.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, this notice announces a meeting of the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Friday, November 9, 2012, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Eisenberg Conference Center, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 540 Gaither Road, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jaime Zimmerman, Coordinator of the Advisory Council, at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 540

Gaither Road, Rockville, Maryland 20850, (301) 427-1456. For press-related information, please contact Alison Hunt at (301) 427-1244.

If sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodation for a disability is needed, please contact the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity Management on (301) 827-4840, no later than Friday, October 26, 2012. The agenda, roster, and minutes are available from Ms. Bonnie Campbell, Committee Management Officer, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 540 Gaither Road, Rockville, Maryland 20850. Ms. Campbell's phone number is (301) 427-1554.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Purpose**

The National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality is authorized by Section 941 of the Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. 299c. In accordance with its statutory mandate, the Council is to advise the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Director, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), on matters related to AHRQ's conduct of its mission including providing guidance on (A) priorities for health care research, (B) the field of health care research including training needs and information dissemination on health care quality and (C) the role of the Agency in light of private sector activity and opportunities for public private partnerships.

The Council is composed of members of the public, appointed by the Secretary, and Federal ex-officio members specified in the authorizing legislation.

II. Agenda

On Friday, November 9, 2012, there will be a subcommittee meeting for the National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report scheduled to begin at 7:30 a.m. The Council meeting will convene at 8:30 a.m., with the call to order by the Council Chair and approval of previous Council summary notes. The meeting will begin with a report from the National Advisory Council Subcommittee on the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act. The AHRQ Director will then present her update on current research, programs, and initiatives. Following the morning session, the Council will hold an Executive Session between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to discuss strategic issues related to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. This Executive Session will be closed to the

public in accordance with 5 U.S.C. App. 2, section 10(d) and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B). This portion of the meeting is likely to disclose information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action to the public. The final agenda will be available on the AHRQ Web site at www.AHRQ.gov no later than Friday, November 2, 2012.

Dated: September 27, 2012.

Carolyn M. Clancy,
Director.

[FR Doc. 2012-24455 Filed 10-4-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention****Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—Health Disparities Subcommittee (HDS)**

In accordance with section 10(a) (2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following meeting of the aforementioned subcommittee:

Time and Date: 10 a.m.–12:15 p.m. EDT, October 24, 2012.

Place: Teleconference.

Status: Open to the public, limited only by the availability of telephone ports. The public is welcome to participate during the public comment period. A public comment period is tentatively scheduled for 12 p.m. to 12:15 p.m. To participate in the teleconference, please dial (866) 561-5277 and enter code 2238494.

Purpose: The Subcommittee will provide advice to the CDC Director through the ACD on strategic and other health disparities and health equity issues and provide guidance on opportunities for CDC.

Matters to be discussed: Agenda items will include the following: Office of Minority Health and Health Equity updates; discussion of draft recommendations from April 2012 meeting with the IOM Health Disparities Roundtable; discussion of Critical issues and Recommendations (Strategies to Strengthen CDC Response to Social Determinants of Health and Inequities); discussion regarding organizing the workflow of the HDS going forward; and HDS membership after June 2013.

The agenda is subject to change as priorities dictate.

Contact Person for More Information: Leandris Liburd, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.A., Designated Federal Officer, Health Disparities Subcommittee, Advisory Committee to the Director, CDC, 1600 Clifton Road NE., M/S E-67, Atlanta, Georgia 30333. Telephone (404) 498-2320, Email: LEL1@cdc.gov.

The Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, has been delegated the authority to sign **Federal Register** notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities, for both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Dated: October 1, 2012.

Elaine L. Baker,

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

[FR Doc. 2012-24590 Filed 10-4-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[Document Identifier: CMS-10142 and CMS-R-262]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) 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:* Revision of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Bid Pricing Tool (BPT) for Medicare Advantage (MA)

Plans and Prescription Drug Plans (PDP); *Use:* Under the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA), and implementing regulations at 42 CFR, Medicare Advantage organizations (MAO) and Prescription Drug Plans (PDP) are required to submit an actuarial pricing "bid" for each plan offered to Medicare beneficiaries for approval by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

Title I of the MMA established a program to offer prescription drug benefits to Medicare enrollees through Prescription Drug Plans. MMA Title II revised several aspects of the Medicare+Choice program (renamed Medicare Advantage), including the payment methodology and the introduction of "Regional" MA plans. CMS payments to PDPs and MA plans will be on a market-based competitive approach.

MAOs and PDPs use the Bid Pricing Tool (BPT) software to develop their actuarial pricing bid. The information provided in the BPT is the basis for the plan's enrollee premiums and CMS payments for each contract year. The tool collects data such as medical expense development (from claims data and/or manual rating), administrative expenses, profit levels, and projected plan enrollment information. By statute, completed BPTs are due to CMS by the first Monday of June each year.

CMS reviews and analyzes the information provided on the Bid Pricing Tool. Ultimately, CMS decides whether to approve the plan pricing (i.e., payment and premium) proposed by each organization. CMS is requesting to continue its use of the BPT for the collection of information for CY2014 through CY2016. *Form Number:* CMS-10142 (OCN: 0938-0944); *Frequency:* Yearly; *Affected Public:* Private Sector—Business or other for-profits and not-for-profit institutions; *Number of Respondents:* 555; *Total Annual Responses:* 4,995; *Total Annual Hours:* 149,850. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Diane Spitalnic at 410-786-5745. For all other issues call 410-786-1326.)

2. *Type of Information Collection Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Plan Benefit Package (PBP) and Formulary Submission for Medicare Advantage (MA) Plans and Prescription Drug Plans (PDP); *Use:* Under the Medicare Modernization Act (MMA), Medicare Advantage (MA) and Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) organizations are required to submit plan benefit packages for all Medicare beneficiaries residing in their

service area. The plan benefit package submission consists of the Plan Benefit Package (PBP) software, formulary file, and supporting documentation, as necessary. MA and PDP organizations use the PBP software to describe their organization's plan benefit packages, including information on premiums, cost sharing, authorization rules, and supplemental benefits. They also generate a formulary to describe their list of drugs, including information on prior authorization, step therapy, tiering, and quantity limits. Additionally, CMS uses the PBP and formulary data to review and approve the plan benefit packages proposed by each MA and PDP organization.

After receiving OMB clearance in spring 2000, CMS implemented the PBP as part of the Contract Year (CY) 2001 Adjusted Community Rate Proposal (ACRP) process. In addition, information collected via the PBP and formulary has been used to support the marketing material review process, the National Medicare Education Program, and other program oversight and development activities. For instance, the PBP software automatically generates the standardized sentences for the Summary of Benefits (SB) by using the plan benefit package data entered into the PBP software by the organization's user. These standardized sentences are used by the MA organizations in their SB marketing materials and by CMS to generate plan benefits data for display in the *Medicare & You* handbook and on the www.medicare.gov Web site.

CMS is requesting to continue its use of the PBP software and formulary submission for the collection of benefits and related information for CY 2014 through CY 2016. CMS estimates that 578 MA organizations and 63 PDP organizations will be required to submit the plan benefit package information in CY 2014. Based on operational changes and policy clarifications to the Medicare program and continued input and feedback by the industry, CMS has made the necessary changes to the plan benefit package submission. *Form Number:* CMS-R-262 (OCN: 0938-0763); *Frequency:* Yearly; *Affected Public:* Private Sector—Business or other for-profits and not-for-profit institutions; *Number of Respondents:* 641; *Total Annual Responses:* 6,169; *Total Annual Hours:* 56,708. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Kristy Holtje at 410-786-2209. For all other issues call 410-786-1326.)

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://www.cms.hhs.gov/>