

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.

*Type of Information Collection Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Criteria for Medicare Coverage of Liver Transplants; *Form No.:* HCFA-R-108 (OMB# 0938-0580); *Use:* Medicare participating hospitals must file an application to be approved for coverage and payment of liver transplants performed on Medicare beneficiaries; *Frequency:* Monthly; *Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit; *Number of Respondents:* 12; *Total Annual Responses:* 12; *Total Annual Hours:* 2,110.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access HCFA's Web Site address at <http://www.hcfa.gov/regs/prdact95.htm>, or E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and HCFA document identifier, to [Paperwork@hcfa.gov](mailto:Paperwork@hcfa.gov), or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 30 days of this notice directly to the OMB desk officer: OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, Attention: Wendy Taylor, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: February 14, 2001.

**John P. Burke III,**

*HCFA Reports Clearance Officer, HCFA Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Health Care Financing Administration

[Document Identifier: HCFA-R-170]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Health Care Financing Administration.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, 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.

*Type of Information Collection Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Criteria for Medicare Coverage of Lung Transplants; *Form No.:* HCFA-R-170 (OMB# 0938-0670); *Use:* Medicare participating hospitals must file an application to be approved for coverage and payment of lung transplants performed on Medicare beneficiaries; *Frequency:* Annually; *Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit; *Number of Respondents:* 6; *Total Annual Responses:* 6; *Total Annual Hours:* 900.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access HCFA's Web Site address at <http://www.hcfa.gov/regs/prdact95.htm>, or E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and HCFA document identifier, to [Paperwork@hcfa.gov](mailto:Paperwork@hcfa.gov), or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 30 days of this notice directly to the OMB desk officer: OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, Attention: Wendy Taylor, New

Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: February 14, 2001.

**John P. Burke III,**

*HCFA Reports Clearance Officer, HCFA Office of Information Services, Information Technology Investment Management Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Health Care Financing Administration

[HCFA-2068-N]

#### Medicare, Medicaid, and CLIA Programs; Continuance of the Approval of the American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics as a CLIA Accreditation Organization

**AGENCY:** Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the continued approval of the American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (ASHI) as an accreditation organization for clinical laboratories under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA) program. We have determined that the accreditation process of this organization provides reasonable assurance that the laboratories accredited by ASHI meet the conditions required by CLIA and its implementing regulations. Consequently, laboratories that voluntarily become accredited by ASHI would meet the CLIA condition level requirements for laboratories and, therefore, are not subject to routine inspection by State survey agencies to determine their compliance with CLIA requirements. These laboratories are, however, subject to Federal validation and complaint investigation surveys.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This notice is effective for the period March 5, 2001 through October 31, 2006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Minnie Christian, (410) 786-3339.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background and Legislative Authority

On October 31, 1988, the Congress enacted the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA), Pub. L. 100-578. CLIA replaced in its entirety section 353(e)(2) of the Public Health Service Act, as enacted by