

Control and Prevention, 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.

**Kalwant Smagh,**

*Director, Office of Strategic Business Initiatives, Office of the Chief Operating Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*

[FR Doc. 2023–21566 Filed 9–29–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163–18–P

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Docket No. CDC–2023–0082]

#### Advisory Committee to the Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**AGENCY:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting and request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with regulatory provisions, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (ACD, CDC). This is a hybrid meeting, accessible both in person and virtually (webcast live via the World Wide Web). It is open to the public and limited only by the space available. Time will be available for public comment.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on November 14, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., EST (times subject to change).

Written comments must be received on or before October 27, 2023.

#### ADDRESSES:

*Meeting address:* CDC Roybal Campus, Building 19, Auditorium B3, 1600 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30329–4027.

Please note that the meeting location, the CDC Roybal Campus, is a federal facility and in-person access is limited to United States citizens unless prior authorizations, taking up to 30 to 60 days, have been made. Visitors must follow all directions for access to CDC facilities. Directions for visitors to CDC, including safety requirements related to COVID–19; are available at <https://www.cdc.gov/screening/visitors.html>.

*Registration:* You must register to attend this meeting in person. If you wish to attend in person, please submit a request by email to [ACDDirector@cdc.gov](mailto:ACDDirector@cdc.gov) or by telephone at (404) 345–1039 at least 5 business days in advance of the meeting. No registration is required to view the meeting via the World Wide Web. Information for accessing the webcast will be available at <https://www.cdc.gov/about/advisory-committee-director/>.

*Written comments:* You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. CDC–2023–0082, by either of the methods listed below. Do not submit comments for the docket by email. CDC does not accept comments for the docket by email.

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Bridget Richards, MPH, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, Mailstop H21–10, Atlanta, Georgia 30329–4027. Attn: Docket No. CDC–2023–0082.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and Docket Number. All relevant comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Written comments received in advance of the meeting will be included in the official record of the meeting.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bridget Richards, MPH, Office of the Chief of Staff, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, Mailstop H21–10, Atlanta, Georgia 30329–4027; Telephone: (404) 345–1039; Email: [ACDDirector@cdc.gov](mailto:ACDDirector@cdc.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Purpose:* The Advisory Committee to the Director, CDC, shall (1) make recommendations to the Director regarding ways to prioritize the activities of the agency in alignment with the CDC Strategic Plan required under section 305(c); H.R. 2617–1252; (2) advise on ways to achieve or improve performance metrics in relation to the CDC Strategic Plan, and other relevant metrics, as appropriate; (3) provide advice and recommendations on the development of the Strategic Plan, and any subsequent updates, as appropriate; (4) advise on grant, cooperative agreements, contracts, or other transactions, as applicable; (5) provide other advice to the Director, as requested, to fulfill duties under

sections 301 and 311; and (6) appoint subcommittees. The Committee recommends ways to prioritize CDC's activities, improve results, and address health disparities. It also provides guidance to help CDC work more effectively with its various private and public sector constituents to make health protection a practical reality.

*Matters to be Considered:* The agenda will include an introduction of the new CDC Director, Dr. Mandy Cohen, and a discussion regarding agency updates and priorities. The agenda also includes updates on the progress made to date on the health equity, laboratory, and data and surveillance recommendation; discussion and vote on the Laboratory Workgroup final recommendations; and discussion and votes to sunset the Health Equity and Laboratory workgroups due to completion of their terms of reference. CDC's Senior Advisor for Health Strategy will present on supporting healthy families, and a Senior Counselor to the CDC Director will present on COVID–19 recission. Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

#### Public Participation

Interested persons or organizations are invited to participate by submitting written views, recommendations, and data. Please note that comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, are part of the public record and are subject to public disclosure. Comments will be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>. Therefore, do not include any information in your comment or supporting materials that you consider confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure. If you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be on public display. CDC will review all submissions and may choose to redact, or withhold, submissions containing private or proprietary information such as Social Security numbers, medical information, inappropriate language, or duplicate/near duplicate examples of a mass-mail campaign. CDC will carefully consider all comments submitted into the docket.

*Written Public Comment:* The docket will be opened to receive written comments on October 2, 2023 through October 27, 2023.

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committee management activities, for both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

**Kalwant Smagh,**

*Director, Office of Strategic Business Initiatives, Office of the Chief Operating Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*

[FR Doc. 2023–21567 Filed 9–29–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163–18–P

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Docket No. CDC–2023–0080]

#### Guidelines for the Use of Doxycycline Post-Exposure Prophylaxis for Bacterial Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Prevention; Request for Comment and Informational Presentation

**AGENCY:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice with comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announces the opening of a docket to obtain comment on proposed guidelines for the use of doxycycline post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for prevention of bacterial sexually transmitted infections (STI). The proposed guidelines for bacterial STI prevention include post-exposure prophylaxis with doxycycline (doxycycline PEP) because it has demonstrated benefit in reducing chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis infections and represents a new approach to addressing STI prevention in populations at increased risk for these infections. Doxycycline PEP, when offered, should be implemented in the context of a comprehensive sexual health approach including risk reduction counseling, STI screening and treatment, recommended vaccination, and linkage to HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), HIV care, or other services, as appropriate. The purpose of the proposed guidelines is to provide updated clinical guidance for healthcare providers to inform the use of doxycycline PEP for preventing bacterial STI infections. CDC has made available a pre-recorded informational presentation to provide information about the studies considered when developing the proposed guideline, explain the public comment process,

and provide an overview of important monitoring for antibiotic use and antibiotic resistance that the agency will be considering to address potential risks.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before November 16, 2023. An Informational Presentation has been pre-recorded and is available at <https://npin.cdc.gov/>.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. CDC–2023–0080 by either of the methods listed below. Do not submit comments by email. CDC does not accept comments by email.

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- **Mail:** [Division of STD Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, Mailstop US12–2, Atlanta, GA 30329, Attn: Docket No. CDC–2023–0080].

**Instructions:** All submissions received must include the agency name and Docket Number. All relevant comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

The informational presentation can be accessed at <https://npin.cdc.gov/>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John R. Papp, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, Mailstop U12–3, Atlanta, GA 30329; Telephone: 404–639–8000; Email: [jwp6@cdc.gov](mailto:jwp6@cdc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** CDC's proposed guidelines for the use of post-exposure prophylaxis with doxycycline for bacterial STI prevention in the United States is available under the Supporting and Related Materials tab in the docket for this notice, Docket No. CDC–2023–0080, on <http://www.regulations.gov>.

#### Public Participation

Interested persons or organizations are invited to participate by submitting written views, recommendations, and data. In addition, CDC invites comments specifically on the following questions proposed in this Notice:

- Based on the evidence presented in the full guidelines document (see the Supporting and Related Materials tab in the docket), does the evidence support the proposed guidelines for the use of post-exposure prophylaxis with doxycycline for bacterial STI prevention, including but not limited to risks and benefits? If not, please state the reason why and, if available,

provide additional evidence for consideration.

- Are CDC's proposed guidelines for the use of post-exposure prophylaxis with doxycycline bacterial STI prevention clearly written? If not, what changes do you propose to make it clear?

- If implemented as currently drafted, do you believe the proposed guidelines for the use of post-exposure prophylaxis with doxycycline for bacterial STI prevention would result in improved prevention of bacterial STIs in the United States? If not, please provide an explanation and supporting data or evidence.

- How can these proposed guidelines most effectively reach and be received by populations who would benefit from this intervention?

Please note that comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, are part of the public record and are subject to public disclosure. Comments will be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>. Therefore, do not include any information in your comment or supporting materials that you consider confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure. If you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be on public display. CDC will review all submissions and may choose to redact, or withhold, submissions containing private or proprietary information such as Social Security numbers, medical information, inappropriate language, or duplicate/near duplicate examples of a mass-mail campaign.

#### Background

Incidence of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) caused by *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (causative agent of gonorrhea), *Chlamydia trachomatis* (causative agent of chlamydia), and *Treponema pallidum* (causative agent of syphilis) continues to increase in the United States. Novel approaches are needed to address the STI epidemic, especially for populations disproportionately affected (1). Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) involves taking a medication to prevent an infection after a possible exposure and is a common strategy for prevention of HIV and other infections. PEP is a form of chemoprophylaxis and distinct from pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) which involves taking a medication before exposure occurs. Doxycycline, a broad-spectrum tetracycline antibiotic, is used as pre- or post-exposure prophylaxis to prevent infections such as malaria and Lyme disease (2). Doxycycline is well