

patients between the ages of 17–55 years.

Cognitive rehabilitation is a generic term lacking a standard definition. The term is used to describe varied systems of multidisciplinary services intended to remedy related cognitive, daily living and psychosocial ability impairments which are secondary to organic brain damage.

The current state of the medical literature does not allow for a TRICARE/CHAMPUS benefit for cognitive rehabilitation in the treatment of TBI patients. The DVHIP is conducting a randomized, prospective trial that would hasten the answers to the current questions of the contribution(s), if any, of cognitive rehabilitation. The study will address the efficacy of cognitive rehabilitation versus traditional rehabilitation of beneficiaries with TBI (moderate to severe closed head injury) in prospective randomized clinical trials.

#### B. TRICARE/CHAMPUS Policy

TRICARE/CHAMPUS cost shares TBI rehabilitative services such as speech therapy, physical therapy and occupational therapy. However, cognitive rehabilitation therapy, which is frequently provided as a component of TBI care, is considered unproven for brain injury under TRICARE/CHAMPUS.

TRICARE/CHAMPUS, by regulation, does not approve payment for unproven procedures. Any change in the unproven status of cognitive rehabilitation in the treatment of TBI logically awaits the findings from well-controlled studies of clinically meaningful endpoints such as the DVHIP Demonstration Project.

Because CHAMPUS relies upon outcome-based medical literature in the formulation of its coverage policy regarding cognitive rehabilitation, the DoD should assist with research protocols that will directly contribute to the body of science regarding cognitive rehabilitation. Extension of the demonstration project will assist in meeting clinical trial goals of the DVHIP study and arrival at conclusions regarding the safety and efficacy of cognitive rehabilitation in treatment of TBI.

#### C. Operation of the Demonstration

The Extension of the Demonstration is projected to last for no more than two years. Under the Demonstration, DoD reimburses the four participating DVA facilities at a negotiated rate which covers all professional and institutional services associated with the inpatient bed days required for the initial

evaluation, rehabilitation and subsequent re-evaluations of TRICARE/CHAMPUS patients. The beneficiary cost-shares applicable under TRICARE/CHAMPUS apply under the Demonstration Project.

The TRICARE Management Activity provides for demonstration claim processing via specific contractual arrangement with a contractor. The contractors are not involved in clinical issues but direct patients to the nearest participating DVA facility for evaluation.

Dated: August 28, 2000.

**L.M. Bynum,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer Department of Defense.*

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**BILLING CODE 5001–10–M**

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

#### Department of the Air Force

##### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Department of the Air Force, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

In compliance with section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of Admissions announces the proposed reinstatement of a public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. 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 information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by October 31, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to United States Air Force Academy, Office of Admissions, 2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 236, USAFA, CO 80840.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposed and associated collection instruments, please write to the above address, or call

United States Air Force Academy, Office of Admissions, (719) 333–7291.

*Title, Associated Form, and OMB Number:* Air Force Academy Candidate Personal Data Record, USAFA Form 146, OMB Number 0701–0064.

*Needs and Uses:* The information collection requirement is necessary to obtain data on candidate's background and aptitude in determining eligibility and selection to the Air Force Academy.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 3,617.

*Number of Respondents:* 7,233.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Average Burden per Response:* 30 Minutes.

*Frequency:* 1.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Summary of Information Collection

The information collected on this form is required by 10 U.S.C. 9346. The respondents are students who are applying for admission to the United States Air Force Academy. Each student's background and aptitude is reviewed to determine eligibility. If the information on this form is not collected, the individual cannot be considered for admittance to the Air Force Academy.

**Janet A. Long,**

*Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 5001–05–P**

### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

#### Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before October 31, 2000.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or