

ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN TABLE

Type of respondent	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden hours
State, local, or tribal governments, nonprofits	20	1	200	4,000

Terry Nicolosi,

Office of the Secretary, Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee (CLIAC)

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 for the aforementioned committee:

Times and Dates:

8 a.m.–5 p.m., February 20, 2008.

8 a.m.–3:30 p.m., February 21, 2008.

Place: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road, NE., Tom Harkin Global Communications Center, Building 19, Room 232, Auditorium B, Atlanta, Georgia 30333.

Status: Open to the public, limited only by the space available. The meeting room accommodates approximately 100 people.

Purpose: This Committee is charged with providing scientific and technical advice and guidance to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Assistant Secretary for Health, and the Director, CDC, regarding the need for, and the nature of, revisions to the standards under which clinical laboratories are regulated; the impact on medical and laboratory practice of proposed revisions to the standards; and the modification of the standards to accommodate technological advances.

Matters To Be Discussed: The agenda will include updates from the CDC, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and the Food and Drug Administration; and presentations and discussion addressing “20 Years of CLIA: Needs for Quality Then vs. Now;” evidence gathered since CLIA implementation demonstrating the impact of standards/accreditation on laboratory quality; perspectives on Quality Management System implementation; and laboratory

biosafety. Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

Due to administrative issues that had to be resolved, the **Federal Register** notice is being published less than fifteen days before the date of the meeting.

Contact Person for More Information: Nancy Anderson, Chief, Laboratory Practice Standards Branch, Division of Laboratory Systems, National Center for Preparedness, Detection, and Control of Infectious Diseases, Coordinating Center for Infectious Diseases, CDC, 1600 Clifton Road, NE., Mailstop F-11, Atlanta, Georgia 30333; telephone (404) 718-1025; fax (404) 718-1085; or via e-mail at Nancy.Anderson@cdc.hhs.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 CDC and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Dated: February 19, 2008.

Elaine L. Baker,

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

[FR Doc. 08-824 Filed 2-20-08; 10:32 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-1491-N]

Medicare Program; Extension of Certain Hospital Wage Index Reclassifications

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the extension of the expiration date for certain wage index geographic reclassifications and special exceptions as implemented by section 117 of the Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 (Pub. L. 110-173). Certain geographic reclassifications and special exception

hospitals' wage indices that were set to expire on September 30, 2007 are now extended through September 30, 2008. In addition, for hospital reclassifications extended by Division B, Title I, section 106(a) of the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006, Pub. L. 109-432, that resulted in a lower wage index for the second half of FY 2007, we will apply the higher wage index that was applicable to such hospitals during the first half of FY 2007, for the entire fiscal year.

DATES: *Effective date:* This notice is effective on February 22, 2008.

Applicability date: This notice is applicable to the hospitals identified in section II.A. of this notice on October 1, 2007 and to the hospitals identified in section II.B. of this notice on April 1, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Slater, (410) 786-5229.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 508 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA) (Pub. L. 108-173) permitted a qualifying hospital to appeal the wage index classification otherwise applicable to the hospital and apply for reclassification to another area of the State in which the hospital was located (or, at the discretion of the Secretary, to an area within a contiguous State). Hospitals were required to submit their applications by February 15, 2004. In the February 13, 2004 **Federal Register** (69 FR 7340), we published a notice that described our implementation of section 508 of MMA. The Congress limited the reclassifications under section 508 of MMA to a 3-year period beginning April 1, 2004 and ending March 31, 2007.

Section 106(a) of the Medicare Improvements and Extension Act, Division B of the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 (MIEA-TRHCA) (Pub. L. 109-432) extended any geographic reclassification that was set to expire on March 31, 2007 by 6 months until September 30, 2007. In the March 23, 2007 **Federal Register** (72 FR 13799), we published a notice explaining how we would implement section 106 of MIEA-TRHCA. We also explained that for a subset of hospitals whose