

and technical issues important to FDA and its mission, including emerging issues within the scientific community. Additionally, the Science Board provides advice to the Agency on keeping pace with technical and scientific developments, including in regulatory science, input into the Agency's research agenda, and on upgrading its scientific and research facilities and training opportunities. It will also provide, where requested, expert review of Agency-sponsored intramural and extramural scientific research programs. The meeting will be open to the public.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held virtually on October 7, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Eastern Time.

**ADDRESSES:** All meeting participants will be heard, viewed, captioned, and recorded for this advisory committee meeting via an online teleconferencing and/or video conferencing platform.

Answers to commonly asked questions about FDA advisory committee meetings may be accessed at: <https://www.fda.gov/AdvisoryCommittees/AboutAdvisoryCommittees/ucm408555.htm>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Rakesh Raghuwanshi, Office of the Chief Scientist, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 1, Rm. 3309, Silver Spring, MD 20993, 301-796-4769, [rakesh.raghuwanshi@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:rakesh.raghuwanshi@fda.hhs.gov); or FDA Advisory Committee Information Line, 1-800-741-8138 (301-443-0572 in the Washington, DC area). A notice in the **Federal Register** about last-minute modifications that impact a previously announced advisory committee meeting cannot always be published quickly enough to provide timely notice. Therefore, you should always check the Agency's website at <https://www.fda.gov/AdvisoryCommittees/default.htm> and scroll down to the appropriate advisory committee meeting link, or call the advisory committee information line to learn about possible modifications before coming to the meeting.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Agenda:** The meeting presentations will be heard, viewed, captioned, and recorded through an online teleconferencing platform. The Science Board to FDA will receive an update from the New Alternative Methods subcommittee and will hear details about FDA's reorganization scheduled for implementation on October 1, 2024, that includes significant updates to the Office of the Chief Scientist and the creation of a unified Human Foods Program.

FDA intends to make background material available to the public no later than 2 business days before the meeting. If FDA is unable to post the background material on its website prior to the meeting, the background material will be made publicly available on FDA's website at the time of the advisory committee meeting. Background material and the link to the online teleconference and/or video conference meeting will be available at <https://www.fda.gov/AdvisoryCommittees/Calendar/default.htm>. Scroll down to the appropriate advisory committee meeting link.

The meeting will include slide presentations with audio components to allow the presentation of materials in a manner that most closely resembles an in-person advisory committee meeting.

**Procedure:** Interested persons may present data, information, or views, orally or in writing, on issues pending before the committee. All electronic and written submissions to the Docket (see **ADDRESSES**) on or before September 30, 2024, will be provided to the committee. Oral presentations from the public will be scheduled between approximately 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. Eastern Time. Those individuals interested in making formal oral presentations should notify the contact person and submit a brief statement of the general nature of the evidence or arguments they wish to present, the names and addresses of proposed participants, and an indication of the approximate time requested to make their presentation on or before September 20, 2024. Time allotted for each presentation may be limited. If the number of registrants requesting to speak is greater than can be reasonably accommodated during the scheduled open public hearing session, FDA may conduct a lottery to determine the speakers for the scheduled open public hearing session. The contact person will notify interested persons regarding their request to speak by September 23, 2024.

For press inquiries, please contact the Office of Media Affairs at [fdaoma@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:fdaoma@fda.hhs.gov) or 301-796-4540.

FDA welcomes the attendance of the public at its advisory committee meetings and will make every effort to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require accommodations due to a disability, please contact Rakesh Raghuwanshi (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) at least 7 days in advance of the meeting.

FDA is committed to the orderly conduct of its advisory committee meetings. Please visit our website at <https://www.fda.gov/AdvisoryCommittees/AboutAdvisoryCommittees/>

[ucm111462.htm](https://www.fda.gov/AdvisoryCommittees/AboutAdvisoryCommittees/ucm111462.htm) for procedures on public conduct during advisory committee meetings.

Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. 1001 *et seq.*). This meeting notice also serves as notice that, pursuant to 21 CFR 10.19, the requirements in 21 CFR 14.22(b), (f), and (g) relating to the location of advisory committee meetings are hereby waived to allow for this meeting to take place using an online meeting platform. This waiver is in the interest of allowing greater transparency and opportunities for public participation, in addition to convenience for advisory committee members, speakers, and guest speakers. The conditions for issuance of a waiver under 21 CFR 10.19 are met.

Dated: August 12, 2024.

**Lauren K. Roth,**

*Associate Commissioner for Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2024-18263 Filed 8-14-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4164-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA-2024-N-3379]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Laboratory Accreditation for Analyses of Foods

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the Agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), Federal Agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, and to allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on FDA's Laboratory Accreditation for Analyses of Foods (LAAF).

**DATES:** Either electronic or written comments on the collection of information must be submitted by October 15, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments as follows. Please note that late, untimely filed comments will not be considered. The <https://www.regulations.gov> electronic filing

system will accept comments until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time at the end of October 15, 2024. Comments received by mail/hand delivery/courier (for written/paper submissions) will be considered timely if they are received on or before that date.

#### *Electronic Submissions*

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to <https://www.regulations.gov> will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else's Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>.

- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see "Written/Paper Submissions" and "Instructions").

#### *Written/Paper Submissions*

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- **Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions):** Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

- For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in "Instructions."

**Instructions:** All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA-2024-N-3379 for "Laboratory Accreditation for Analyses of Food." Received comments, those filed in a timely manner (see **ADDRESSES**), will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as "Confidential Submissions," publicly viewable at <https://www.regulations.gov> or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, 240-402-7500.

- **Confidential Submissions—**To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states "THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION." The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as "confidential." Any information marked as "confidential" will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA's posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf>.

**Docket:** For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the "Search" box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, 240-402-7500.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** JonnaLynn Capezzuto, Office of Operations, Food and Drug Administration, Three White Flint North, 10A-12M, 11601 Landsdown St., North Bethesda, MD 20852, 301-796-3794, [PRAStaff@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:PRAStaff@fda.hhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), Federal Agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. "Collection of information" is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes Agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)) requires Federal

Agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, FDA is publishing notice of the proposed collection of information set forth in this document.

With respect to the following collection of information, FDA invites comments on these topics: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FDA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of FDA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques, when appropriate, and other forms of information technology.

#### **Laboratory Accreditation for Analysis of Foods—21 CFR Part 1, Subpart R**

*OMB Control Number 0910-0898—Extension*

This information collection helps to support implementation of FDA's statutory and regulatory authority governing our laboratory accreditation for analysis of foods program under Section 422 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) (21 U.S.C. 350k) and 21 CFR part 1, subpart R. FDA has statutory authority to establish a program for the testing of food by accredited laboratories; to establish a publicly available registry of recognized accreditation bodies and laboratories recognized by an accreditation body; and to require reports of any changes that would affect the recognition of such accreditation body or the accreditation of such laboratory.

The regulations require respondents to maintain and electronically submit certain test results, reports, notifications, and other records to FDA. The submissions can be made through the FURLS Laboratory Accreditation for Analyses of Foods Program portal (FDA Industry Systems). User guides for the Accreditation Bodies and Accredited Laboratories can be found at the following links: <https://www.fda.gov/media/156097/download?attachment> and <https://www.fda.gov/media/161685/download?attachment>. The laboratory accreditation program helps fulfill

FDA's mandate to ensure the safety of the U.S. food supply and protect U.S. consumers by administering appropriate oversight of certain food testing that is of importance to public health. It also helps ensure that the testing is done in accordance with appropriate model standards, which will help produce consistently reliable and valid test results. You may access additional information about the laboratory accreditation program at: [https://](https://www.fda.gov/food/food-safety-modernization-act-fsma/fda-recognized-accreditation-bodies-laboratory-accreditation-analyses-foods-laaf-program)

[www.fda.gov/food/food-safety-modernization-act-fsma/fda-recognized-accreditation-bodies-laboratory-accreditation-analyses-foods-laaf-program](https://www.fda.gov/food/food-safety-modernization-act-fsma/fda-recognized-accreditation-bodies-laboratory-accreditation-analyses-foods-laaf-program). The public registry is available at <https://datadashboard.fda.gov/ora/fd/laaf.htm>.

Respondents to the information collection are accreditation bodies seeking recognition from FDA, recognized accreditation bodies, laboratories seeking accreditation from

recognized accreditation bodies, and accredited laboratories. Participation in this program is voluntary for laboratories and accreditation bodies; however, only recognized accreditation bodies would be able to accredit laboratories to conduct food testing as specified in the regulations.

FDA estimates the burden of this collection of information as follows:

TABLE 1—ESTIMATED ANNUAL REPORTING BURDEN<sup>1 2</sup>

21 CFR section; activity	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Total annual responses	Average burden per response	Total hours
§§ 1.1113 and 1.1114; Accreditation bodies (ABs) application for recognition (one-time submission).	8	44	352	2.2068 (2 hours and 12 minutes).	776.8
§§ 1.1113 and 1.1114; ABs—application for renewal of recognition.					
§ 1.1123; ABs—reports, notifications, and documentation requirements.					
§ 1.1116(a) and (b); ABs—notices of intent to relinquish, records custodian.	1	3	3	3 .....	9
§§ 1.1138 and 1.1139; laboratories—submission of application for LAAF-accreditation (one-time submission).	160	63.5	10,160	1.8051 (1 hour and 49 minutes).	18,340
§§ 1.1149(a) and 1.1152(c)(1), (2); laboratories—submission of sampling plan, sample collection report, and sampler qualifications.					
§§ 1.1152(d) and 1.1153(a); laboratories—qualification to submit abridged analytical reports (one-time submission).					
§ 1.1153; laboratories—abridged analytical reports submissions.					
§ 1.1149(c); laboratories—advance notice of sampling submissions.					
§ 1.1152(f); laboratories—immediate notification.					
§ 1.1140(a); laboratories—notices of intent to relinquish, records custodian.	2	3	6	1 .....	6
§ 1.1152(c)(4) and (5); laboratories—validation and verification studies submissions.	50	5	250	1.5 (1 hour and 30 minutes)	375
§§ 1.1142; 1.1171; 1.1173; and 1.1174; requests in response to FDA action.	1	1	1	1 .....	1
Total .....			10,772	.....	19,508

<sup>1</sup> There are no capital costs or operating and maintenance costs associated with this collection of information.

<sup>2</sup> Totals may not sum due to rounding.

TABLE 2—ESTIMATED ANNUAL RECORDKEEPING BURDEN<sup>1 2</sup>

21 CFR section; activity	Number of recordkeepers	Number of records per recordkeeper	Total annual records	Average burden per recordkeeping	Total hours
§ 1.1113; recordkeeping associated with ISO/IEC 17011:2017.	8	2	8	22 .....	176
§ 1.1124; ABs—additional recordkeeping requirements a recognized accreditation body must maintain, for 5 years after the date of creation of the records, records created while it is recognized demonstrating its compliance with this subpart.					
§ 1.1138; laboratories—becoming accredited to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 (one-time); Laboratories adding ISO 17025 to become LAAF-accredited.	9	1	9	91.06 (91 hours and 4 minutes).	820

TABLE 2—ESTIMATED ANNUAL RECORDKEEPING BURDEN <sup>1 2</sup>—Continued

21 CFR section; activity	Number of recordkeepers	Number of records per recordkeeper	Total annual records	Average burden per recordkeeping	Total hours
§ 1.1138; laboratories—maintaining ISO/IEC 17025: 2017 accreditation.	160	2	320	450.765 (450 hours and 46 minutes).	144,245
§ 1.1154; laboratories—additional record-keeping requirements; a LAAF-accredited laboratory must maintain, for 5 years after the date of creation, records created and received while it is LAAF-accredited that relate to compliance with this subpart.					
Total .....	.....	.....	345	.....	145,241

<sup>1</sup> There are no capital costs or operating and maintenance costs associated with this collection of information.

<sup>2</sup> Totals may not sum due to rounding.

The burden we attribute to reporting and recordkeeping activities is assumed to be distributed among the individual elements of the respective information collection activities. Although we have not received a notice of intent to relinquish records since the last approval of this information collection, we include one response for the purpose of estimating burden.

New information technology applications have more accurately calculated the number of food testing laboratories seeking accreditation and as a result the number of respondents to the information collection decreased (from 170 respondents in the currently approved collection to 160 respondents). Consequently, we have adjusted our burden estimate, which results in a decrease of 227 responses and 9,303 burden hours from the currently approved information collection.

Dated: August 12, 2024.

**Lauren K. Roth,**

*Associate Commissioner for Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2024–18277 Filed 8–14–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4164–01–P

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Office of the Secretary

### Findings of Research Misconduct

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Findings of research misconduct have been made against Richard L. Eckert, Ph.D. (Respondent), who was a Professor, Chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and Deputy Director of the University of Maryland and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Maryland,

Baltimore (UMB). Respondent engaged in research misconduct in research supported by U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) funds, specifically National Cancer Institute (NCI), National Institutes of Health (NIH), grants R01 CA211909, R01 CA184027, R01 CA131074, R01 CA131064, R01 CA092201, R01 CA109196, P30 CA134274, and P30 CA043703, National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS), NIH, grants R21 AR065266, R01 AR046494, R01 AR053851, R01 AR060388, P30 AR039750, R01 AR041456, R01 AR049713, and R01 AR045357, National Eye Institute (NEI), NIH, grants P30 EY011373 and T32 EY007157, and National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), NIH, grant R01 GM043751. The questioned research was included in two (2) grant applications submitted for PHS funds, specifically R01 CA233450–01 and R01 CA233450–01A1 submitted to NCI, NIH. The administrative actions, including debarment for a period of eight (8) years, were implemented beginning on August 1, 2024, and are detailed below.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sheila Garrity, JD, MPH, MBA, Director, Office of Research Integrity, 1101 Wootton Parkway, Suite 240, Rockville, MD 20852, (240) 453–8200.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that the Office of Research Integrity (ORI) has taken final action in the following case:

*Richard L. Eckert, Ph.D., University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB):* Based on the report of an investigation conducted by UMB and additional analysis conducted by ORI in its oversight review, ORI found that Dr. Richard L. Eckert (Respondent), former Professor, Chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and Deputy Director of the University of Maryland and Stewart Greenebaum

Comprehensive Cancer Center, UMB, engaged in research misconduct in research supported by PHS funds, specifically NCI, NIH, grants R01 CA211909, R01 CA184027, R01 CA131074, R01 CA131064, R01 CA092201, R01 CA109196, P30 CA134274, and P30 CA043703, NIAMS, NIH, grants R21 AR065266, R01 AR046494, R01 AR053851, R01 AR060388, P30 AR039750, R01 AR041456, R01 AR049713, and R01 AR045357, NEI, NIH, grants P30 EY011373 and T32 EY007157, and NIGMS, NIH, grant R01 GM043751. The questioned research was included in two (2) grant applications submitted for PHS funds, specifically R01 CA233450–01 and R01 CA233450–01A1 submitted to NCI, NIH.

ORI found that Respondent engaged in research misconduct by intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly falsifying and/or fabricating data in the following thirteen (13) published papers and two (2) PHS grant applications:

- Inhibition of YAP function overcomes BRAF inhibitor resistance in melanoma cancer stem cells. *Oncotarget*. 2017 Nov 22; 8(66):110257–110272. doi: 10.18632/oncotarget.22628 (hereafter referred to as “*Oncotarget 2017*”).

- The Bmi-1 helix-turn and ring finger domains are required for Bmi-1 antagonism of (-) epigallocatechin-3-gallate suppression of skin cancer cell survival. *Cell Signal*. 2015 Jul;27(7):1336–44. doi: 10.1016/j.cellsig.2015.03.021 (hereafter referred to as “*Cell Signal 2015*”). Erratum in: *Cell Signal*. 2021 Jun;82:109952. doi: 10.1016/j.cellsig.2021.109952.

- P38δ regulates p53 to control p21Cip1 expression in human epidermal keratinocytes. *J Biol Chem*. 2014 Apr 18; 289(16):11443–11453. doi: 10.1074/jbc.M113.543165 (hereafter referred to as “*J Biol Chem. 2014*”).