DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: Microbiology, Infectious Diseases and AIDS Initial Review Group, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research Committee.

Date: June 19–20, 2003.

Time: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: One Washington Circle Hotel, One Washington Circle, Washington, DC 20037.

Contact Person: Gary S. Madonna, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Scientific Review Program, Division of Extramural Activities, NIAID, NIH, Room 2149, 6700–B Rockledge Drive, MSC 7616, Bethesda, MD 20892–7616, (301) 496–3528, *gm12w@nih.gov.*

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.855, Allergy Immunology, and Transplantation Research; 93.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: May 27, 2003.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 03–13842 Filed 6–2–03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Disease; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provision set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6). Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of committee: Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Special Grants Review Committee.

Date: June 10, 2003.

Time: 9 AM to 5 PM.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Bethesda Marriott, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Contact Person: John R. Lymangrover, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, National Institutes of Health, NIAMS, Natcher Bldg., Room 5As25N, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301–594–4952.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.846, Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: May 27, 2003.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 03–13845 Filed 6–2–03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS); National Toxicology Program (NTP); Notice of Availability of the Report: ''Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) Evaluation of In Vitro Test Methods for Detecting Potential Endocrine Disruptors: Estrogen Receptor and Androgen Receptor Binding and Transcriptional Activation Assays''

Summary

The National Toxicology Program (NTP) Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods (NICEATM) announces the availability of the report entitled, ''ICCVAM Evaluation of In Vitro Test Methods for Detecting Potential Endocrine Disruptors: Estrogen Receptor and Androgen Receptor Binding and Transcriptional Activation Assays,'' NIH Publication 02–4503. The report contains ICCVAM's recommendations on minimum procedural standards and reference substances for standardization and validation of in vitro estrogen and androgen receptor binding and transcriptional activation assays.

Availability of Report

The report is available electronically (PDF format) on the NICEATM/ICCVAM web site at *http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov.* A limited number of printed reports and CDs are available. To receive a printed report or CD, please send a request to Dr. William S. Stokes, Director, NICEATM, PO Box 12233, MD EC–17, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, phone: 919–541–2384, fax: 919–541–0947, or email *niceatm@niehs.nih.gov.* Inquiries about the report or its availability should be sent to Dr. Stokes at the above address.

Background

In April 2000, the EPA asked the ICCVAM to evaluate the validation status of in vitro estrogen receptor (ER) and androgen receptor (AR) binding and transcriptional activation (TA) assays that were proposed as possible components of the EPA Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program (EDSP) Tier 1 screening battery. ICCVAM, which is charged by law (Pub. L. 106–545) to evaluate the scientific validity of new, revised, and alternative test methods proposed for specific regulatory uses, agreed to evaluate these test methods based on their potential interagency applicability and public health significance.

The NICEATM, which administers and provides scientific support for the ICCVAM, subsequently compiled available data and information on in vitro ER and AR binding and TA assays. Four draft Background Review Documents (BRDs) (available at *http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov/methods/endocrine.htm*) were prepared according to published guidelines for submission of test methods to ICCVAM (ICCVAM 1999). This comprehensive review found that there are no adequately standardized and validated in vitro ER- or AR-based test methods. The NICEATM proposed minimum procedural standards that should be incorporated into standardized protocols for each of the four types of assays. In addition, NICEATM included within each BRD a list of proposed substances that should be used for the validation of in vitro ER and AR binding and TA assays.