

The TDF is the only qualified organization that has the technical and administrative capacity to conduct the specific set of activities requested to support CDC TB and MDR-TB prevention and control activities in the Philippines under this cooperative agreement because:

1. The TDF is uniquely positioned, in terms of legal authority, ability, track record, infrastructure and credibility in the Philippines to develop and support TB and MDR-TB control activities in both public and non-governmental organization sites throughout the country.

2. The TDF has already established a framework and mechanisms to develop and implement TB and MDR-TB treatment and control activities in the Philippines, enabling it to immediately become engaged in the activities listed in this announcement.

3. The TDF has demonstrated its ability to coordinate and implement TB treatment and control activities including MDR-TB and TB/HIV co-infection within the country.

4. The TDF has a unique and unparalleled relationship with the Makati Medical Center (MMC), the Department of Health (DOH), NTP, the Tropical Disease Foundation (TDF), and the Philippines Coalition Against Tuberculosis (PhilCAT), based on a rich history of collaboration.

5. The TDF Directly Observed Treatment Short Course (DOTS) Clinic has been in existence since February 1999, in response to the need for public-private partnership in the management of TB patients in the Philippines. The clinic is a collaboration between the TDF and MMC.

6. The TDF was approved as the first pilot project worldwide to undertake DOTS-Plus by the Green Light Committee (GLC), a subgroup of the Scientific Working Group on Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis of the WHO. The MMC DOTS-Plus clinic is the only facility in the Philippines providing treatment to MDR-TB patients.

7. The TDF has the ability to collect information, train staff and advocate for policy based on the experiences learned implementing DOTS-Plus activities.

8. The specific services that the TDF will deliver are directly associated with, and compliment, other ongoing CDC prevention strategies and activities in the Philippines.

C. Funding

Approximately \$110,000 is available in FY 2004 to fund this award. It is expected that the award will begin on or before September 1, 2004, and will be made for a 12-month budget period

within a project period of up to five years. Funding estimates may change.

D. Where To Obtain Additional Information

For general comments or questions about this announcement, contact: Technical Information Management, CDC Procurement and Grants Office, 2920 Brandywine Road, Atlanta, GA 30341-4146, Telephone: (770) 488-2700.

For program technical assistance, contact: Dr. Charles Wells, Project Officer, Division of Tuberculosis Elimination, National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 1600 Clifton Road Mailstop E-10, Atlanta, Georgia 30333, Telephone: (404) 639-8485, E-mail: cwells@cdc.gov.

For budget assistance, contact: Steward Nichols, Grants Management Specialist, CDC Procurement and Grants Office, 2920 Brandywine Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30341, Telephone: (770) 488-2788, E-mail: SNichols1@cdc.gov.

Dated: July 29, 2004.

William P. Nichols,

Acting Director, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

National Center for Health Statistics, Board of Scientific Counselors

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), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) announces the following committee meeting.

Name: Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC).

Times and Dates: 2 p.m.-5:30 p.m., September 9, 2004. 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m., September 10, 2004.

Place: NCHS Headquarters, 3311 Toledo Road, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782.

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 advice and making recommendations to the Secretary; the Director, CDC; and Director, NCHS, regarding the scientific and technical

program goals and objectives, strategies, and priorities of NCHS.

Matters To Be Discussed: The agenda will include welcome remarks by the Director, NCHS; introductions of members and key NCHS staff; scientific presentations and discussions; and an open session for comments from the public. Requests to make an oral presentation should be submitted in writing to the contact person listed below by close of business, August 25, 2004. All requests to make oral comments should contain the name, address, telephone number, and organizational affiliation of the presenter. Written comments should not exceed five single-spaced typed pages in length and should be received by the contact person listed below by close of business, August 25, 2004.

Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert Weinzimer, Executive Secretary, NCHS, 3311 Toledo Road, Room 7108, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782, telephone (301) 458-4565, fax (301) 458-4021.

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: July 28, 2004.

Alvin Hall,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-1275-N]

Medicare Program; Meeting of the Advisory Panel on Ambulatory Payment Classification Groups—September 1, 2, and 3, 2004

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA)(5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), this notice announces the second biannual meeting of the Advisory Panel on Ambulatory Payment Classification (APC) Groups (the Panel) for 2004.