

provisions as required by section 1833(t)(6) of the Social Security Act. Transitional pass-through payments have been made to hospitals for certain drugs, biologicals, and medical devices; *Frequency*: On occasion; *Affected Public*: Business or other for-profit; *Number of Respondents*: 15; *Total Annual Responses*: 15; *Total Annual Hours*: 180.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access CMS Web site address at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/regulations/pral/>, or E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and CMS document identifier, to Paperwork@cms.hhs.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 30 days of this notice directly to the OMB desk officer: OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, Attention: Christopher Martin, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: January 19, 2005.

John P. Burke, III,

CMS Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Regulations Development Group.

[FR Doc. 05-1481 Filed 1-27-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[Document Identifier: CMS-1771, CMS-R-71 and CMS-222]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions;

(2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

1. *Type of Information Collection Request*: Extension of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection*: Attending Physicians Statement and Documentation of Medicare Emergency and Supporting Regulations in 42 CFR, Section 424.103; *Use*: Payment may be made for certain part A inpatient hospital services and part B outpatient provided in a nonparticipating U.S. or foreign hospital when services are necessary to prevent the death or serious impairment of the health of the individual. This collection is used to document the attending physician's statement that the hospitalization was required due to an emergency and give clinical support for the claim.; *Form Number*: CMS-1771 (OMB#: 0938-0023); *Frequency*: On Occasion; *Affected Public*: Business or other for-profit; *Number of Respondents*: 200; *Total Annual Responses*: 200; *Total Annual Hours*: 50.

2. *Type of Information Collection Request*: Extension of a Currently Approved Collection; *Title of Information Collection*: Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) Assumption of Responsibilities and Supporting Regulations in 42 CFR Sections 412.44, 412.46, 431.630, 476.71, 476.73, 476.74, 476.78; *Form No.*: CMS-R-71 (OMB# 0938-0445); *Use*: This collection describes the review functions to be performed by the QIO. It outlines relationships among QIOs, providers, practitioners, beneficiaries, intermediaries, and carriers. QIOs assure that covered care provided to Medicare patients is reasonable, medically necessary, appropriate, and of a quality that meets professionally recognized standards of care, and that inpatient services could not be more appropriately provided on an outpatient basis or in a different type of facility.; *Frequency*: As Needed; *Affected Public*: Business or other for-profit; *Number of Respondents*: 6,036; *Total Annual Responses*: 6,036; *Total Annual Hours*: 81,818.

3. *Type of Information Collection Request*: Extension of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection*: Independent Rural Health Center/Freestanding Federally Qualified Health Center Cost Report and Supporting Regulations in 42 CFR, Section 413.20 and 413.24;

Form No.: CMS-222 (OMB#0938-0107); *Use*: The independent rural health clinic/freestanding federally qualified health center cost report is the cost report to be used by the mentioned clinics/centers to submit annual information. This information is used to achieve a settlement of costs for health care services rendered to Medicare beneficiaries. *Frequency*: Annually; *Affected Public*: Not-for-Profit institutions, Business or other for-profit, and State, local or tribal government; *Number of Respondents*: 3,000; *Total Annual Responses*: 3,000; *Total Annual Hours Requested*: 150,000.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access CMS' Web site address at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/regulations/pral/>, or E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and CMS document identifier, to Paperwork@cms.hhs.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 60 days of this notice directly to the CMS Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer designated at the address below: CMS, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Division of Regulations Development, Attention: Melissa Musotto, Room C5-14-03, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

Dated: January 19, 2005.

John P. Burke, III,

CMS Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Regulations Development Group.

[FR Doc. 05-1482 Filed 1-27-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

[Document Identifier: CMS-10132]

Emergency Clearance: Public Information Collection Requirements Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

Agency: Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, HHS.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services (CMS), Department of Health

and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

We are requesting an emergency review of the information collection referenced below. In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we have submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the following requirements for emergency review. We are requesting an emergency review because the collection of this information is needed before the expiration of the normal time limits under OMB's regulations at 5 CFR part 1320. This is necessary to ensure compliance with an initiative of section 641 of the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003. We cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures because the normal procedures are likely to cause a statutory deadline to be missed.

Section 641 of the MMA provides for the implementation of a demonstration in which Medicare would pay for selected self-administered drugs or biologicals that replace currently-covered Part B drugs. Apart from under this demonstration, Medicare outpatient drug coverage is limited to drugs that are provided incident to a physician's service or are oral cancer drugs with the same chemical composition as physician-administered agents. This demonstration project offers temporary, early coverage for selected prescription drugs before the new prescription drug benefit (Medicare Part D) begins in January 2006. The evaluation is required to address the effects of the program on beneficiary access, outcomes, and costs. Survey results are necessary for CMS to complete its mandated Report to Congress. The survey also represents a unique opportunity to inform CMS on the magnitude of effects on access and health status that result from expanding coverage of a select set of drugs to a well-defined group or seriously ill beneficiaries, and to provide CMS

information on how enrollees learned about the demonstration.

CMS is requesting OMB review and approval of this collection by March 1, 2005, with a 180-day approval period. Written comments and recommendations will be considered from the public if received by the individuals designated below by January 31, 2005.

Type of Information Collection Request: New collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Beneficiary Survey on the Medicare Replacement Drug Demonstration; *Use:* The statute authorizing the Medicare Replacement Drug Demonstration mandates a report to Congress on the effects of the demonstration, to be submitted not later than July 2006. This report is to include an evaluation of patient access to care and patient outcomes under the project. The Medicare Replacement Drug Demonstration Evaluation is necessary to collect information on the demonstration's effects on access and outcomes for this report; *Form Number:* CMS-10132 (OMB#: 0938-NEW); *Frequency:* Other—once per beneficiary; *Affected Public:* Individuals or Households; *Number of Respondents:* 3200; *Total Annual Responses:* 3200; *Total Annual Hours:* 800. We have submitted a copy of this notice to OMB for its review of these information collections. A notice will be published in the **Federal Register** when approval is obtained.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access CMS' Web site address at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/regulations/prs> or E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and CMS document identifier, to Paperwork@cms.hhs.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326.

Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden or any other aspect of these collections of information requirements. However, as noted above, comments on these information collection and recordkeeping requirements must be mailed and/or faxed to the designees referenced below by January 31, 2005:

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Room C5-13-27, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850, Fax Number: (410) 786-0262, Attn: William N. Parham, III, CMS-10056.
and,

OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, Attention: Christopher Martin, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: January 13, 2005.

Dawn Willingham,

Acting, CMS Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Regulations Development Group.

[FR Doc. 05-1555 Filed 1-27-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-4079-N]

Medicare Program: Re-Chartering of the Advisory Panel on Medicare Education (APME) and Notice of the APME Meeting—February 24, 2005

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

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the renewal of the charter of the Advisory Panel on Medicare Education (the Panel). The Panel advises and makes recommendations to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services on opportunities to enhance the effectiveness of consumer education strategies concerning the Medicare program. The charter renewal was signed by the Secretary on January 14, 2005. The charter will terminate on January 14, 2007, unless renewed by the Secretary.

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2, section 10(a) (Pub. L. 92-463), this notice also announces a meeting of the Panel on February 24, 2005. This meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2005 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., e.s.t.

Deadline for Presentations and Comments: February 17, 2005, 12 noon, e.s.t.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Loews L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, 480 L'Enfant Plaza, Washington, DC 20024, (202) 484-1000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lynne Johnson, Health Insurance Specialist, Division of Partnership Development, Center for Beneficiary