

ports on the U.S. Atlantic Coast and ports on the Mediterranean Sea, the Red Sea, the Arabian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. Expedited Review is requested.

By Order of the Federal Maritime Commission.

Dated: October 10, 2003.

Bryant L. VanBrakle,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-26218 Filed 10-15-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6730-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics: Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Department of Health and Human Services announces the following advisory committee meeting.

Name: National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS), Subcommittee on Standards and Security (SSS).

Time and Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., October 28, 2003; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., October 29, 2003; 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., October 30, 2003.

Place: Silver Spring Hilton, 8727 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Status: Open.

Purpose: The agenda for Tuesday, October 28th includes discussion on the Consolidated Health Informatics Initiative (CHI) and the International Classification of Diseases 10th revision (ICD-10). The morning session on Wednesday the 28th will be devoted to CHI preliminary reports. During the afternoon session, discussion will take place on the analysis of the impact of moving to ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS. Discussions on ICD-10 will continue on day two. On Thursday the 30th, a discussion on Patient Medical Record Information (PMRI) Standards will begin the day followed by Subcommittee discussion and approval of the PMRI and ICD-10 recommendation letters to the Secretary.

Contact Person for More Information: Substantive program information as well as summaries of meetings and a roster of Committee members may be obtained from Karen Trudel, Senior Technical Advisor, Security and Standards Group, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, MS: C5-24-04, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850, telephone: 410-786-9937; or Marjorie S. Greenberg, Executive Secretary, NCVHS, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Room 1100, Presidential Building, 6525 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782, telephone: (301) 458-4245. Information also is available on the NCVHS home page of the HHS website: <http://www.ncvhs.hhs.gov/> where an agenda for the meeting will be posted when available.

Should you require reasonable accommodation, please contact the CDC Office of Equal Employment Opportunity on (301) 458-4EEO (4336) as soon as possible.

Dated: October 6, 2003.

James Scanlon,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Science and Data Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.

[FR Doc. 03-26143 Filed 10-15-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Statement of Delegation of Authority

Notice is hereby given that I have delegated to the Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), with authority to redelegate, authorities vested in the Secretary of Health and Human Services under Title III, of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, as amended, by the Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002, only insofar as it pertains to the functions assigned to HRSA. The authorities are as follows:

- Sec. 105—Education of Health Care Personnel; Training Regarding Pediatric Issues, section 319F(g) of the PHS Act, as amended.

- Sec. 131(a)—Grants to Improve State, Local, and Hospital Preparedness for and Response to Bioterrorism and other Public Health Emergencies, section 319C; and Partnerships for Community and Hospital Preparedness, section 319C-2 of the PHS Act, as amended.

These delegations shall be exercised under the Department's existing delegation of authority and policy on regulations.

This delegation is effective upon signature. In addition, I hereby affirm and ratify any actions taken by you or other HRSA officials which involved the exercise of this authority prior to the effective date of this delegation.

Dated: October 8, 2003.

Tommy G. Thompson,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-26144 Filed 10-15-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4165-15-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the intention of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to request that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) allow the proposed information collection project: "Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Household Component and Medical Provider Component (MEPS-HC and MEPS-MPC)—2004 and 2005". In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), AHRQ invites the public to comment on this proposed information collection.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by December 15, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted to: Cynthia D. McMichael, Reports Clearance Officer, AHRQ, 540 Gaither Road, Room #5022, Rockville, MD 20850.

Copies of the proposed collection plans, data collection instruments, and specific details on the estimated burden can be obtained from the AHRQ Reports Clearance Officer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cynthia D. McMichael, AHRQ, Reports Clearance Officer, (301) 427-1651.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Proposed Project

"Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Household Component and Medical Provider Component (MEPS-HC and MPC)—2004 and 2005".

The AHRQ intends to conduct an annual panel survey of U.S. households and medical providers to collect information on a variety of measures related to health status, health insurance coverage, health care use and expenditures, and source of payment for health services. This collection project consists of two parts: The MEPS Household Component (HC) and the MEPS Medical Provider Component (MPC).

Each panel of the MEPS-HC consists of a nationally representative sample of U.S. households with a data collection period covering 2½ years.

This time frame allows for the collection of annual data from the MEPS sample that covers their health care experiences over two consecutive calendar years. The first panel of MEPS began in 1996 and a new panel has been initiated annually thereafter. The MEPS-HC is jointly sponsored by the AHRQ and the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS).

The MEPS-HC will be conducted using a sample of households selected from households which responded to