

the quality of care and the quality of life at the end of life. Topics of resulting NIH initiatives have included the clinical management of symptoms at the end of life; patterns of communication among patients, families, and providers; ethics and health care decision making; caregiver support; the context of care delivery; complementary and alternative medicine at the end of life; dying children and their families; and informal care-giving. This conference will examine the results of these many efforts and evaluate the current state of the science.

During the first day-and-a-half of the conference, experts will present the latest research findings on end-of-life care to an independent panel. After weighing all of the scientific evidence, the panel will draft a statement, addressing the following key questions:

- What defines the transition to end of life?
- What outcome variables are important indicators of the quality of the end of life experience for the dying person and for the surviving loved ones?
- What patient, family, and health care system factors are associated with improved or worsened outcomes?
- What processes and interventions are associated with improved or worsened outcomes?
- What are future research directions for improving end-of-life care?

On the final day of the conference, the panel chairperson will read the draft statement to the conference audience and invite comments and questions. A press conference will follow to allow the panel and chairperson to respond to questions from the media.

The primary sponsors of this meeting are the National Institute of Nursing Research and the NIH Office of Medical Applications of Research.

Advance information about the conference and conference registration materials may be obtained from American Institutes for Research of Silver Spring, Maryland, by calling 888-644-2667, or by sending e-mail to endoflifecare@air.org. American Institutes for Research's mailing address is 10720 Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD, 20901. Registration information is also available on the NIH Consensus Development Program Web site at <http://consensus.nih.gov>.

Please Note: The NIH has recently instituted new security measures to ensure the safety of NIH employees and property. All visitors must be prepared to show a photo ID upon request. Visitors may be required to pass through a metal detector and have bags, backpacks, or purses inspected or x-rayed as they enter NIH buildings. For more

information about the new security measures at NIH, please visit the Web site at <http://www.nih.gov/about/visitorssecurity.htm>.

Dated: October 22, 2004.

Raynard S. Kington,

Deputy Director, National Institutes of Health.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. appendix 2), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Sleep Disorders Research Advisory Board.

The meeting will be open to the public, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the Contact Person listed below in advance of the meeting.

Name of Committee: Sleep Disorders Research Advisory Board.

Date: December 7, 2004.

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To discuss sleep research and education priorities and programs.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Natcher Building, 45 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Contact Person: Carl E. Hunt, MD, Director, National Center of Sleep Disorders Research, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 10138, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301/435-0199.

Any interested person may file written comments with the committee by forwarding the statement to the "Contact Person" listed on this notice. The statement should include the name, address, telephone number and when applicable, the business or professional affiliation of the interested person.

In the interest of security, NIH has instituted stringent procedures for entrance into the building by non-government employees. Persons without a government I.D. will need to show a photo I.D. and sign in at the security desk upon entering the building.

Information is also available on the Institute's/Center's Home page: <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/meetings/index.htm>, where an agenda and any additional information for the meeting will be posted when available.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.233, National Center for Sleep Disorders Research; 93.837, Heart and Vascular Diseases Research; 93.838, Lung Diseases Research; 93.839, Blood Diseases

and Resources Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS.)

Dated: October 27, 2004.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 04-24485 Filed 11-2-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; Notice of Closed Meetings

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 meetings.

The meetings 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: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Special Emphasis Panel, Fatty Acids and Food Intake Regulation.

Date: November 30, 2004.

Time: 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Two Democracy Plaza, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Maria E. Davila-Bloom, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Review Branch, DEA, NIDDK, National Institutes of Health, Room 758, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892-5452, (301) 594-7637, davila-bloomm@extra.niddk.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Special Emphasis Panel, Sepsis and Renal Failure.

Date: December 15, 2004.

Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Bethesda Marriott Suites, 6711 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Contact Person: Michele L. Barnard, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Review Branch, DEA, NIDDK, National Institutes of Health, Room 753, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892-5452, (301) 594-8898, barnardm@extra.niddk.nih.gov.