

future filing, of a food additive petition (FAP 6A3958) proposing that the food additive regulations be amended to provide for the safe use of alitame as a sweetening agent or flavoring in food.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Blondell Anderson, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS-265), Food and Drug Administration, 5100 Paint Branch Pkwy., College Park, MD 20740-3835, 301-436-1304.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In a notice published in the *Federal Register* of September 29, 1986 (51 FR 34503), FDA announced that a food additive petition (FAP 6A3958) had been filed by Pfizer Central Research, Pfizer, Inc., 565 Taxter Rd., suite 590, Elmsford, NY 10523. The petition proposed to amend the food additive regulations in part 172 *Food Additives Permitted for Direct Addition to Food for Human Consumption* (21 CFR part 172) to provide for the safe use of alitame (L- α -aspartyl-N-2,2,4,4-tetramethyl-3-thietanyl)-D-alaninamide (CAS Reg. No. 80863-62-3) as a sweetening agent or flavoring in food. The rights to the petition currently belong to Danisco USA, Inc., 440 Saw Mill River Rd., Ardsley, NY 10502-2605. Danisco USA, Inc., has now withdrawn the petition without prejudice to a future filing (21 CFR 171.7).

Dated: June 12, 2008.

Laura M. Tarantino,

Director, Office of Food Additive Safety, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition.
[FR Doc. E8-13998 Filed 6-19-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Service Administration

Advisory Committee on Interdisciplinary, Community-Based Linkages; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), notice is hereby given of the following meeting:

Name: Advisory Committee on Interdisciplinary, Community-Based Linkages (ACICBL).

Dates and Times: July 16, 2008, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., EST. July 17, 2008, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., EST.

Place: (Audio Conference Call).

Status: The meeting will be open to the public; audio conference access limited only by availability of telephone ports.

Purpose: The Committee will be focusing on rural issues and how the Title VII Interdisciplinary, Community-Based Training Grant Programs identified under sections

751-756, Part D of the Public Health Service Act can respond to the current rural healthcare workforce needs. The Committee has invited speakers to highlight various topics related to rural healthcare workforce issues including, but not limited to, discipline specific shortages; recruitment and retention; health professions training; faculty development; telemedicine; and other specific rural health care issues. The meeting will afford committee members with the opportunity to identify and discuss the current status of the healthcare workforce in rural America and formulate appropriate recommendations to the Secretary and to the Congress regarding a variety of training strategies to address the health workforce shortage issues.

Agenda: The ACICBL agenda includes an overview of the Committee's general business activities, presentations by experts on rural healthcare workforce related issues, and discussion sessions specific for the development of recommendations to be addressed in the Eighth Annual ACICBL Report.

Agenda items are subject to change as dictated by the priorities of the Committee.

Supplementary Information: The ACICBL will meet on Wednesday, July 16 and Thursday, July 17, 2008 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (EST) via audio conference. To participate in this audio conference call, please dial 1-888-697-8510 and provide the following information:

Leader's Name: Mr. Lou Coccodrilli.

Passcode: 2214090.

For Further Information Contact: Anyone requesting information regarding the Committee should contact Louis D. Coccodrilli, Designated Federal Official for the ACICBL, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Rm 9-36, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857; (301) 443-6950 or lcoccodrilli@hrsa.gov. Adriana Guerra, Public Health Fellow, can also be contacted for inquiries at (301) 443-6194 or aguerra@hrsa.gov.

Dated: June 17, 2008.

Alexandra Huttinger,

Director, Division of Policy Review and Coordination.

[FR Doc. E8-14039 Filed 6-19-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Reimbursement of Travel and Subsistence Expenses Toward Living Organ Donation Eligibility Guidelines

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Publication of Change to Program Eligibility Guidelines.

SUMMARY: This notice finalizes an amendment to the eligibility guidelines proposed on March 5, 2008, in the *Federal Register* (73 FR 11930). The purpose of this notice was to solicit comments on the amendment to the Program Eligibility Guidelines proposed by HRSA concerning the Reimbursement of Travel and Subsistence Expenses Program.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James F. Burdick, M.D., Director, Division of Transplantation, Healthcare Systems Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Parklawn Building, Room 12C-06, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857; telephone (301) 443-7577; fax (301) 594-6095; or e-mail: jburdick@hrsa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In its final program eligibility guidelines, HRSA explained that "[t]he Program will pay for a total of up to five trips; three for the donor and two for accompanying persons. The accompanying persons need not be the same each trip." HRSA proposes amending this paragraph to read: "[t]he Program will pay for a total of up to five trips; three for the donor and two for accompanying persons. However, in cases in which the transplant center requests the donor to return to the transplant center for additional visits as a result of donor complications or other health related issues, the National Living Donor Assistance Center (NLDAC) may provide reimbursement for the additional visit(s) for the donor and an accompanying person. The accompanying persons need not be the same in each trip." The purpose of this proposed change is to accommodate individuals who experience donor complications or other health related issues relating to donation.

HRSA received one public comment on this request. The respondent endorses HRSA's proposed amendment because "it will accommodate individuals who experience donor complications or other health related issues relating to donation". HRSA wishes to thank everyone who reviewed this request even if a formal response was not sent to HRSA.

HRSA approved the amendment to the Reimbursement of Travel and Subsistence Expenses Program Eligibility Guidelines as published in the *Federal Register*. The amended eligibility criteria are included in this document. The amended eligibility criteria guidelines document is also available at <http://www.livingdonorassistancecenter.gov>.

National Living Donor Assistance Center (NLDAC) Program Eligibility Guidelines as Amended

Section 3 of the Organ Donation and Recovery Improvement Act (ODRIA), 42 U.S.C. 274f, establishes the authority and legislative parameters to provide reimbursement for travel and subsistence expenses incurred towards living organ donation. HRSA awarded a cooperative agreement to the Regents of the University of Michigan (Michigan), which partnered with the American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS), to establish the National Living Donor Assistance Center (NLDAC) to operate this Program.

As provided for in the statutory authorization, this Program is intended to provide reimbursement only in those circumstances when payment cannot reasonably be covered by other sources of reimbursement. The NLDAC, under Federal law, cannot provide reimbursement to any living organ donor for travel and other qualifying expenses if the donor can receive reimbursement for these expenses from any of the following sources:

- (1) Any State compensation program, an insurance policy, or any Federal or State health benefits program;
- (2) An entity that provides health services on a prepaid basis; or
- (3) The recipient of the organ.

In response to public solicitation of comments, a threshold of income eligibility for the recipient of the organ is 300 percent of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Poverty Guidelines in effect at the time of the eligibility determination. The Program assumes that recipients whose income exceeds this level will have the ability to reimburse the living organ donor for the travel and subsistence expenses and any other qualifying expenses that can be authorized by the Secretary of HHS. The Program provides an exception to this rule for financial hardships. A transplant social worker, or appropriate transplant center representative, based on a complete recipient evaluation, can provide an official statement, notwithstanding the recipient's income level, that the

recipient of the organ would face significant financial hardship if required to pay for the qualifying living organ donor expenses. A recipient's financial hardship is defined as circumstances in which the recipient's income exceeds 300 percent of the HHS Poverty Guidelines in effect at the time of the eligibility determination, but the individual will have difficulty paying the donor's expenses due to other significant expenses. Whether or not hardship exists in a particular case requires a fact-specific analysis; examples of significant expenses include circumstances such as paying for medical expenses not covered by insurance or providing significant financial support for a family member not living in the household (e.g., elderly parent). Each waiver request shall be made in writing. The NLDAC will review each written financial hardship request and (upon consultation with HRSA in complicated cases) make the determination as to whether reimbursement will be approved based on the merits of the request.

All persons who wish to become living organ donors are eligible to receive reimbursement for their travel and qualified expenses if they cannot receive reimbursement from the sources outlined above and if all the requirements outlined in the *Criteria for Donor Reimbursement Section* are satisfied. However, because of the limited funds available, prospective living donors who are most likely not able to cover these expenses will receive priority.

The ability to cover these expenses is determined based on an evaluation of (1) the donor and recipient's income, in relation to the HHS Poverty Guidelines (described in the 2007 HHS Poverty Guidelines table below), and (2) financial hardship. As a general matter, income refers to the donor or recipient's total household income. A donor may be able to demonstrate financial hardship, even if the donor's income exceeds 300 percent of the HHS Poverty Guidelines, if the donor will have difficulty paying the qualifying expenses due to other significant

expenses. Although all requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, examples of significant expenses include circumstances such as providing significant financial support for a family member not living in the household (e.g., elderly parent), loss of income due to donation process. Waiver requests by the transplant center, on behalf of the donor, shall be made in writing and shall clearly describe the circumstances for the waiver request. The NLDAC will review waiver requests and (upon consultation with HRSA in complicated cases) make determinations regarding the approval or disapproval of waivers.

Donors will be given preference in the following order of priority:

Preference Category 1: The donor's income and the recipient's income are each 300 percent or less of HHS Poverty Guidelines in effect at the time of the eligibility determination in their respective States of primary residence.

Preference Category 2: Although the donor's income exceeds 300 percent of the HHS Poverty Guidelines in effect in the State of primary residence at the time of the eligibility determination, the donor demonstrates financial hardship. The recipient's income is at or below 300 percent of the HHS Poverty Guidelines in effect in the State of primary residence at the time of the eligibility determination.

Preference Category 3: Any living organ donor, regardless of income or financial hardship, if the recipient's income is at or below 300 percent of the HHS Poverty Guidelines in effect in the recipient's State of primary residence at the time of the eligibility determination.

Preference Category 4: Any living organ donor, regardless of income or financial hardship, if the recipient (with income above 300 percent of the HHS Poverty Guidelines in effect in the State of primary residence at the time of the eligibility determination) demonstrates financial hardship.

The HHS Poverty Guidelines for 2007 (**Federal Register**, Vol. 72, No. 15, January 24, 2007, pp. 3147–3148) are shown in the table below.

2007 HHS POVERTY GUIDELINES

Persons in family or household	48 contiguous states and DC	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$10,210	\$12,770	\$11,750
2	13,690	17,120	15,750
3	17,170	21,470	19,750
4	20,650	25,820	23,750
5	24,130	30,170	27,750
6	27,610	34,520	31,750
7	31,090	38,870	35,750
8	34,570	43,220	39,750

2007 HHS POVERTY GUIDELINES—Continued

Persons in family or household	48 contiguous states and DC	Alaska	Hawaii
For each additional person, add	3,480	4,350	4,000

Source: FEDERAL REGISTER, Vol. 72, No. 15, January 24, 2007, pp. 3147–3148.

These guidelines are updated periodically.

Criteria for Donor Reimbursement

1. Any individual who in good faith incurs travel and other qualifying expenses toward the intended donation of an organ.

2. Donor and recipient of the organ are U.S. citizens or lawfully admitted residents of the U.S.

3. Donor and recipient have primary residences in the U.S. or its territories.

4. Travel is originating from the donor's primary residence.

5. Donor and recipient certify that they understand and are in compliance with Section 301 of NOTA (42 U.S.C. 274e) which states in part “* * *. It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly acquire, receive, or otherwise transfer any human organ for valuable consideration for use in human transplantation if the transfer affects interstate commerce.”

6. The transplant center where the donation procedure occurs certifies to its status of good standing with the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN).

Qualifying Expenses

For the purposes of the Reimbursement of Travel and Subsistence Expenses toward Living Organ Donation Program, *qualifying expenses* presently include only travel, lodging, and meals and incidental expenses incurred by the donor and/or his/her accompanying person(s) as part of:

(1) Donor evaluation, clinic visit or hospitalization,

(2) Hospitalization for the living donor surgical procedure, and/or

(3) Medical or surgical follow-up clinic visit or hospitalization within 90 days following the living donation procedure.

The Program will pay for a total of up to five trips; three for the donor and two for accompanying persons. However, in cases in which the transplant center requests the donor to return to the transplant center for additional visits as a result of donor complications or other health related issues, NLDAC may provide reimbursement for the additional visit(s) for the donor and an accompanying person. The

accompanying persons need not be the same in each trip.

The total Federal reimbursement for qualified expenses during the donation process for the donor and accompanying individuals shall not exceed \$6,000.00. Reimbursement for qualifying expenses shall be provided at the Federal per-diem rate, except for hotel accommodation, which shall be reimbursed at no more than 150 percent of the Federal per-diem rate.

For donor and recipient pairs participating in a paired exchange program, the applicable eligibility criteria for the originally intended recipient shall be considered for the purpose of reimbursement of qualifying donor expenses even though the final recipient of the donated organ may not be the recipient identified in the original donor-recipient pair.

Maximum Number of Prospective Donors per Recipient

- Kidney: One donor at a time with a maximum of three donors.
- Liver: One donor at a time with a maximum of five donors.
- Lung: Two donors at a time with a maximum of six donors.

Special Provisions

Many factors may prevent the intended and willing donor from proceeding with the donation. Circumstances that would prevent the transplant or donation from proceeding include: present health status of the intended donor or recipient, perceived long-term risks to the intended donor, justified circumstances such as acts of God (e.g., major storms or hurricanes), or a circumstance when an intended donor proceeds toward donation in good faith, subject to a case-by-case evaluation by the NLDAC, but then elects not to pursue donation. In such cases, the intended donor and accompanying persons may receive reimbursement for qualified expenses incurred as if the donation had been completed. Under Program policy, a form will be filed with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) reporting funds disbursed as income for expenses not incurred.

Dated: June 13, 2008.

Elizabeth M. Duke,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. E8–14036 Filed 6–19–08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Transport of Laboratory Personnel Exposed to Infectious Agents From Fort Detrick, Frederick, MD to the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center, Bethesda, MD

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321–4347, the NIH is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement will be prepared for the transport of laboratory personnel exposed to infectious agents from Fort Detrick, Frederick, Maryland to the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center, Bethesda, Maryland.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Valerie Nottingham, Chief, Environmental Quality Branch, Division of Environmental Protection, Office of Research Facilities, NIH, B13/2S11, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, telephone 301–496–7775; fax 301–480–8056; or e-mail nihnepa@mail.nih.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Fort Detrick is a U.S. Army Medical Command installation located in Frederick, Maryland, USA. Its 1,200 acres support a multi-governmental community that conducts biomedical research and development, medical material management, global medical communications and the study of foreign plant pathogens. It is home to the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC), with its U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID), as well as to the National Cancer Institute-Frederick (NCI-Frederick). It is the home of the National Interagency Biodefense Campus.

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), a component of NIH, will be the occupant