

j. Public Relations Services. This is the cost of a contract public relations service to manage HISA's website, issue press releases, assist with the production and distribution of information to industry stakeholders, and provide continuing education information for industry stakeholders. The public relations firm that HISA is working with has many years of expertise in P/R for thoroughbred racing enterprises. The firm can perform the aforementioned tasks more efficiently and effectively than if HISA were to hire staff to perform these tasks in-house.

k. Legal. This includes the cost of outside legal counsel for the creation, management, and updating of Racetrack Safety and ADMC rules as well as the cost of outside counsel that is working on the various lawsuits in which HISA is a party. Doing all of these tasks requires a decentralized group of lawyers with varied skill sets. At present, it is much more efficient and effective to utilize outside counsel than for HISA to hire a large in-house legal team to handle these issues.

l. Insurance. This includes the following insurance policies for HISA:

- i. Directors & Officers insurance.
- ii. Workers' Compensation insurance.
- iii. Liability insurance.

All these policies were competitively shopped by a broker to get the lowest rate possible.

m. Payroll Services. This includes all costs of HISA's relationship with Resource Management, Inc. (RMI), a Professional Employer Organization (PEO). RMI provides Human Resources administration (handbook and policy management resources, new employee onboarding, labor law assistance, etc.), benefits management, compliance services (workers' compensation claims management and annual reporting, unemployment claims management, etc.) and payroll administration (payroll processing, W2 management, vacation tracking, etc.). The relationship with RMI allows these functions to be performed in a more cost-effective manner than if HISA hired employees to perform those functions.

n. Professional Services. This account consists of:

- i. Search fees to help HISA fill open positions with the most qualified candidates.
- ii. Consulting fees to assist HISA with board and executive functions.
- iii. \$300,000 contingency fund set aside for unexpected expenses.

These items will ensure that HISA has high quality employees who are well-trained to properly serve its constituents. Please note that the 2023 HISA budget contemplated no

repayment of loans, nor did it assume that any funding shortfall would be incurred.

V. *Information Concerning Rule 1.150(b)(5)*. Appendix 10 is a comparison of the approved HISA 2022 Budget to actual revenues and expenditures. A variance has been calculated for each line item, and a narrative explanation has been provided for all variances >10% and at least \$100,000.

### Conclusion

The budget furthers the purpose of the Act in that it allocates the funding necessary for the successful implementation by HISA of the requirements of the Act. The budget has been carefully analyzed and is narrowly tailored to the various regulatory activities of HISA as contemplated by the Act.

By direction of the Commission.

**April J. Tabor,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

#### Patient Safety Organizations: Voluntary Relinquishment for The Envision Healthcare Center for Quality and Patient Safety PSO

**AGENCY:** Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice of delisting.

**SUMMARY:** The Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Final Rule (Patient Safety Rule) authorizes AHRQ, on behalf of the Secretary of HHS, to list as a patient safety organization (PSO) an entity that attests that it meets the statutory and regulatory requirements for listing. A PSO can be "delisted" by the Secretary if it is found to no longer meet the requirements of the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005 (Patient Safety Act) and Patient Safety Rule, when a PSO chooses to voluntarily relinquish its status as a PSO for any reason, or when a PSO's listing expires. AHRQ accepted a notification of proposed voluntary relinquishment from The Envision Healthcare Center for Quality and Patient Safety PSO, PSO number P0197, of its status as a PSO, and has delisted the PSO accordingly.

**DATES:** The delisting was effective at 12:00 midnight ET (2400) on October 1, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** The directories for both listed and delisted PSOs are ongoing and reviewed weekly by AHRQ. Both directories can be accessed electronically at the following HHS website: <http://www.pso.ahrq.gov/listed>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cathryn Bach, Center for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety, AHRQ, 5600 Fishers Lane, MS 06N100B, Rockville, MD 20857; Telephone (toll free): (866) 403-3697; Telephone (local): (301) 427-1111; TTY (toll free): (866) 438-7231; TTY (local): (301) 427-1130; Email: [psa@ahrq.hhs.gov](mailto:psa@ahrq.hhs.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The Patient Safety Act, 42 U.S.C. 299b-21 to 299b-26, and the related Patient Safety Rule, 42 CFR part 3, published in the **Federal Register** on November 21, 2008 (73 FR 70732-70814), establish a framework by which individuals and entities that meet the definition of provider in the Patient Safety Rule may voluntarily report information to PSOs listed by AHRQ, on a privileged and confidential basis, for the aggregation and analysis of patient safety work product.

The Patient Safety Act authorizes the listing of PSOs, which are entities or component organizations whose mission and primary activity are to conduct activities to improve patient safety and the quality of health care delivery.

HHS issued the Patient Safety Rule to implement the Patient Safety Act. AHRQ administers the provisions of the Patient Safety Act and Patient Safety Rule relating to the listing and operation of PSOs. The Patient Safety Rule authorizes AHRQ to list as a PSO an entity that attests that it meets the statutory and regulatory requirements for listing. A PSO can be "delisted" if it is found to no longer meet the requirements of the Patient Safety Act and Patient Safety Rule, when a PSO chooses to voluntarily relinquish its status as a PSO for any reason, or when a PSO's listing expires. Section 3.108(d) of the Patient Safety Rule requires AHRQ to provide public notice when it removes an organization from the list of PSOs.

AHRQ has accepted a notification of proposed voluntary relinquishment from The Envision Healthcare Center for Quality and Patient Safety PSO to voluntarily relinquish its status as a PSO. Accordingly, The Envision Healthcare Center for Quality and

Patient Safety PSO, P0197, was delisted effective at 12:00 Midnight ET (2400) on October 1, 2023.

More information on PSOs can be obtained through AHRQ's PSO website at <http://www.pso.ahrq.gov>.

Dated: September 29, 2023.

**Marquita Cullom,**  
Associate Director.

[FR Doc. 2023-22076 Filed 10-3-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-90-P

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

#### Supplemental Evidence and Data Request on Mental Health and Occupational Stress in the Emergency Medical Service and 911 Workforce

**AGENCY:** Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), HHS.

**ACTION:** Request for supplemental evidence and data submissions.

**SUMMARY:** The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is seeking scientific information submissions from the public. Scientific information is being solicited to inform our review on *Mental Health and Occupational Stress in the Emergency Medical Service and 911 Workforce*, which is currently being conducted by the AHRQ's Evidence-based Practice Centers (EPC) Program. Access to published and unpublished pertinent scientific information will improve the quality of this review.

**DATES:** *Submission Deadline* on or before November 3, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:**

Email submissions: [epc@ahrq.hhs.gov](mailto:epc@ahrq.hhs.gov).

Print submissions:

Mailing Address: Center for Evidence and Practice Improvement, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, ATTN: EPC SEADs Coordinator, 5600 Fishers Lane, Mail Stop 06E53A, Rockville, MD 20857

Shipping Address (FedEx, UPS, etc.):

Center for Evidence and Practice Improvement, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, ATTN: EPC SEADs Coordinator, 5600 Fishers Lane, Mail Stop 06E77D, Rockville, MD 20857

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Kelly Carper, Telephone: 301-427-1656 or Email: [epc@ahrq.hhs.gov](mailto:epc@ahrq.hhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality has commissioned the Evidence-based Practice Centers (EPC)

Program to complete a review of the evidence for *Mental Health and Occupational Stress in the Emergency Medical Service and 911 Workforce*. AHRQ is conducting this review pursuant to Section 902 of the Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. 299a.

The EPC Program is dedicated to identifying as many studies as possible that are relevant to the questions for each of its reviews. In order to do so, we are supplementing the usual manual and electronic database searches of the literature by requesting information from the public (e.g., details of studies conducted). We are looking for studies that report on *Mental Health and Occupational Stress in the Emergency Medical Service and 911 Workforce*. The entire research protocol is available online at: <https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/products/ems-911-workforce-mental-health/protocol>.

This is to notify the public that the EPC Program would find the following information on *Mental Health and Occupational Stress in the Emergency Medical Service and 911 Workforce* helpful:

- A list of completed studies that your organization has sponsored for this topic. In the list, please indicate whether results are available on *ClinicalTrials.gov* along with the *ClinicalTrials.gov* trial number.

- For completed studies that do not have results on *ClinicalTrials.gov*, a summary, including the following elements, if relevant: study number, study period, design, methodology, indication and diagnosis, proper use instructions, inclusion and exclusion criteria, primary and secondary outcomes, baseline characteristics, number of patients screened/eligible/enrolled/lost to follow-up/withdrawn/analyzed, effectiveness/efficacy, and safety results.

- A list of ongoing studies that your organization has sponsored for this topic. In the list, please provide the *ClinicalTrials.gov* trial number or, if the trial is not registered, the protocol for the study including, if relevant, a study number, the study period, design, methodology, indication and diagnosis, proper use instructions, inclusion and exclusion criteria, and primary and secondary outcomes.

- Description of whether the above studies constitute *ALL Phase II and above clinical trials* sponsored by your organization for this topic and an index outlining the relevant information in each submitted file.

Your contribution is very beneficial to the Program. Materials submitted must be publicly available or able to be made public. Materials that are considered

confidential; marketing materials; study types not included in the review; or information on topics not included in the review cannot be used by the EPC Program. This is a voluntary request for information, and all costs for complying with this request must be borne by the submitter.

The draft of this review will be posted on AHRQ's EPC Program website and available for public comment for a period of 4 weeks. If you would like to be notified when the draft is posted, please sign up for the email list at: <https://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/email-updates>.

The review will answer the following questions. This information is provided as background. AHRQ is not requesting that the public provide answers to these questions.

#### Key Questions (KQ)

**KQ 1:** What are the incidence, prevalence, and severity of mental health issues (depression, anxiety, PTSD, suicidality, and substance use disorders) and occupational stress issues (burnout, stress, and moral injury) among the EMS and the 911 workforce?

- a. Are the incidence, prevalence, and severity modified by:

- i. Agency composition including workflow, regulations, financing?
- ii. Characteristics of EMS and 911 personnel (e.g., education/training, proficiency, experience, trauma exposure)?

- iii. Physical and mental health resources?

**KQ 2:** What are the effectiveness and comparative effectiveness, including benefits and harms, of interventions addressing mental health issues (depression, anxiety, PTSD, suicidality, and substance use disorders) and occupational stress issues (burnout, stress, and moral injury) among the EMS and 911 workforce?

- a. Are the effectiveness of the interventions modified by:

- i. Intervention type?
- ii. Characteristics of EMS and 911 personnel (e.g., education/training, proficiency, experience)?

- iii. EMS/911 agency characteristics including workflow, regulations, financing?

- iv. Physical and mental health resources?

**KQ 3:** What are the context and implementation factors of studies with effective EMS/911 workforce practices to prevent, recognize and treat mental health issues (depression, anxiety, PTSD, suicidality, and substance use disorders) and occupational stress issues (burnout, stress, and moral