

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

[Document Identifier: CMS-10150]

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

AGENCY: Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

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, however, 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 the Administration. The use of the normal clearance procedures is reasonably likely to cause a statutory deadline to be missed.

The purpose of the data is to enable prospective and current Medicare beneficiaries to compare, learn, select and enroll in a plan that best meets their needs. Both stand alone prescription drug plans (PDPs) and Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug (MA-PDs) plans will be required to submit drug pricing and pharmacy network data to CMS. These data will be made publicly available to people with Medicare

through the new Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder web tool that will be launched in the fall of 2005 on <http://www.medicare.gov>. The database structure will provide the flexibility to design and communicate plan design, formulary, and pharmacy network information to people with Medicare by displaying program contact and pricing information at the network pharmacy level.

CMS is requesting OMB review and approval of this collection by June 22, 2005, with a 30-day approval period. Written comments and recommendations will be accepted from the public if received by the individuals designated below by May 22, 2005.

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/pr> 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 May 22, 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-10150; and,

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

Dated: April 14, 2005.

Michelle Shortt,

Acting Director, Regulations Development Group, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-4107-N]

Medicare Program; Request for Nominations for the Advisory Panel on Medicare Education

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice requests nominations for individuals to serve on 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 (HHS) (the Secretary) and the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) (the Administrator) on opportunities for CMS to optimize the effectiveness of the National Medicare Education Program and other CMS programs that help Medicare beneficiaries understand the Medicare program and the range of health plan options available. Nominees must be knowledgeable in the field of managing a drug benefit.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Nominations will be considered if received at the appropriate address, provided in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice, no later than 5 p.m., e.d.t., on Monday, May 16, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Mail or deliver nominations to the following address: Lynne G. Johnson, Center for Beneficiary Choices, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail stop S2-23-05, Baltimore MD, 21244-1850.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lynne G. Johnson, Health Insurance Specialist, Division of Partnership Development, Center for Beneficiary Choices, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail stop S2-23-05, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850, (410) 786-0090. Please refer to the CMS Advisory Committees Information Line (1 877-449-5659 toll free)/(410-786-9379 local) or the Internet (<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/faca/apme/default.asp>) for additional information and updates on committee activities, or contact Ms. Johnson via e-mail at ljohnson3@cms.hhs.gov. Press inquiries are handled through the CMS Press Office at (202) 690-6145.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Section 222 of the Public Health Service Act, as amended, grants to the

Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) (the Secretary) the authority to establish an advisory panel if the Secretary finds the panel necessary and in the public interest. The Secretary signed the charter establishing the Advisory Panel on Medicare Education (the Panel) on January 21, 1999 and the renewed the charter on January 14, 2005. The Panel advises HHS and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on opportunities to enhance the effectiveness of consumer education materials serving the Medicare program.

The goals of the Panel are to provide advice on the following:

- Developing and implementing a national Medicare education program that describes the options for selecting health plans and prescription drug benefits under Medicare.
- Enhancing the Federal government's effectiveness in informing the Medicare consumer, including the appropriate use of public-private partnerships.
- Expanding outreach to vulnerable and underserved communities, including racial and ethnic minorities, in the context of a national Medicare education program.
- Assembling an information base of best practices for helping consumers evaluate health plan options and building a community infrastructure for information, counseling, and assistance.

The Panel shall consist of a maximum of 20 members. The charter requires that meetings be held approximately four times per year. Members are expected to attend all meetings.

This notice is an invitation to interested organizations or individuals to submit their nominations for membership on the Panel. The Secretary, or his designee, will appoint the new members to the Panel from among those candidates determined to

have the expertise required to meet specific agency needs, and in a manner to ensure an appropriate balance of membership.

Each nomination must state that the nominee has expressed a willingness to serve as a Panel member and must be accompanied by a resume and a brief summary of the nominee's experience. In order to permit an evaluation of possible sources of conflict of interest, potential candidates will be asked to provide detailed information concerning such matters as financial holdings, consultancies, and research grants or contracts. Self-nominations will also be accepted.

Authority: (Section 222 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 217(a)) and section 10(a) of Pub. L. 92-463 (5 U.S.C. App. 2, section 10(a) and 41 CFR 102-3)

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.773, Medicare—Hospital Insurance Program; and Program No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: April 6, 2005.

Mark B. McClellan,

Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

[FR Doc. 05-7954 Filed 4-21-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Title: Supporting Healthy Marriage Project Focus Group.

OMB No.: New Collection.

Description: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is conducting a

demonstration and evaluation called the Supporting Health Marriage (SHM) Project. The project is a large-scale, multi-site, multi-year, rigorous test of marriage education programs for interested low-income married couples and is based on a substantial body of research that has shown a relationship between healthy marriages and a variety of positive child and family outcomes. The SHM Project is designed to inform program operators and policymakers of the most effective ways to help couples who voluntarily choose to participate in demonstrations designed to strengthen and maintain healthy marriages. The focus groups will provide key information about the perspectives of low-to-moderate-income couples regarding marriage, relationships, and marriage education programs; assist ACF and program managers in designing responsive healthy marriage programs; and will help to ensure that the project is testing the strongest possible program models for its target populations.

Respondents: The respondents will be selected to represent low-to-moderate income couples in each of the following categories, whose views can help us to design effective SHM programs: Married couples and those planning to marry, couples with and without children, and couples who have had experience with marriage education programs as well as those who have not. There will also be an effort to include African American and Hispanic couples. Focus groups may be divided into separate discussions for those who are married and for those who are planning to marry. They may also be further separated into discussions for couples, for men only, and for women only.

Each focus group will have approximately 10 respondents for a total of 180 respondents over 2 years.

ANNUAL BURDEN ESTIMATES

Instrument	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Total burden hours
Mixed Gender Focus Group Protocol	30	1	3	90
Men's Focus Group Protocol	30	1	3	90
Women's Focus Group Protocol	30	1	3	90
Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours	90	1	3	270

Additional Information: Copies of the proposed collection may be obtained by writing to the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Administration, Office of Information Services, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW.,

Washington, DC 20447, Attn: ACF Reports Clearance Officer. All requests should be identified by the title of the information collection. E-mail address: grjohnson@acf.hhs.gov.

OMB Comment: OMB is required to make a decision concerning the collection of information between 30 and 60 days after publication of this document in the **Federal Register**. Therefore, a comment is best assured of