

## II. Listening Session Format

The listening session will be held on December 9, 2008 to consider the key design issues raised in the issues paper. The session will begin at 10 a.m. e.s.t. with an overview of the objectives for the session and a brief summary of the approach to developing the plan. Beginning at approximately 10:30 a.m. e.s.t. the remainder of the meeting will be devoted to presenting and receiving comments on key design and policy issues in each of the major components of the plan: (1) Measures; (2) data infrastructure and reporting; (3) incentive methodology; and (4) public reporting. The agenda will provide opportunities for brief 2-minute comments on each of the key issues from on-site session attendees. As time allows, telephone participants will also have the opportunity to provide brief 2-minute comments. A lunch break will occur from approximately 12:30 p.m. e.s.t. to 1:15 p.m. e.s.t. The meeting will conclude by 4 p.m. e.s.t. with brief comments on next steps.

## III. Registration Instructions

For security reasons, any persons wishing to attend this meeting must register by the date listed in the **DATES** section of this notice. Persons interested in attending the meeting or participating by teleconference must register by completing the on-line registration via the CMS Web site at <http://registration.intercall.com/go/cms2>. The on-line registration system will generate a confirmation page to indicate the completion of your registration. Please print this page as your registration receipt.

Individuals may also participate in the listening session by teleconference. Registration is required as the number of call-in lines will be limited. The call-in number will be provided upon confirmation of registration.

An audio download of the listening session will be available within 72 hours after completion of the listening session through the CMS Web site Physician Center Spotlights at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/center/physician.asp>.

## IV. Security, Building, and Parking Guidelines

This meeting will be held in a Federal government building; therefore, Federal security measures are applicable. In planning your arrival time, we recommend allowing additional time to clear security. The on-site check-in for visitors will begin at 9:15 a.m. e.s.t. Please allow sufficient time to complete security checkpoints.

Security measures include the following:

- Presentation of government-issued photographic identification to the Federal Protective Service or Guard Service personnel.
- Interior and exterior inspection of vehicles (this includes engine and trunk inspection) at the entrance to the grounds. Parking permits and instructions will be issued after the vehicle inspection.
- Passing through a metal detector and inspection of items brought into the building. We note that all items brought to CMS, whether personal or for the purpose of demonstration or to support a demonstration, are subject to inspection.

We cannot assume responsibility for coordinating the receipt, transfer, transport, storage, set-up, safety, or timely arrival of any personal belongings or items used for demonstration or to support a demonstration.

**Note:** Individuals who are not registered in advance will not be permitted to enter the building and will be unable to attend the meeting. The public may not enter the building earlier than 45 minutes prior to the convening of the meeting.

All visitors must be escorted in areas other than the lower and first floor levels in the Central Building. Seating capacity is limited to the first 250 registrants.

**Authority:** Section 131(d) The Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008.

Dated: October 9, 2008.

**Kerry Weems,**

*Acting Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.*

[FR Doc. E8-24900 Filed 10-23-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4120-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-1559-N]

### Medicare Program; Meeting of the Practicing Physicians Advisory Council, December 8, 2008

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a quarterly meeting of the Practicing Physicians Advisory Council (the Council). The Council will meet to discuss certain proposed changes in regulations and manual instructions related to physicians' services, as

identified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. This meeting is open to the public.

**DATES:** *Meeting Date:* Monday, December 8, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. e.s.t.

*Deadline for Registration without Oral Presentation:* Thursday, December 4, 2008, 12 noon, e.s.t.

*Deadline for Registration of Oral Presentations:* Friday, November 21, 2008, 12 noon, e.s.t.

*Deadline for Submission of Oral Remarks and Written Comments:* Wednesday, November 26, 2008, 12 noon, e.s.t.

*Deadline for Requesting Special Accommodations:* Monday, December 1, 2008, 12 noon, e.s.t.

**ADDRESSES:** *Meeting Location:* The meeting will be held in Room 505A, in the Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20201.

*Submission of Testimony:* Testimonies should be mailed to Kelly Buchanan, Designated Federal Official (DFO), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail stop C4-13-07, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850, or contact the DFO via e-mail at [PPAC&\\_hhs@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:PPAC&_hhs@cms.hhs.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kelly Buchanan, DFO, (410) 786-6132, or e-mail [PPAC\\_hhs@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:PPAC_hhs@cms.hhs.gov). News media representatives must contact the CMS Press Office, (202) 690-6145. Please refer to the CMS Advisory Committees' Information Line (1-877-449-5659 toll free), (410) 786-9379 local) or the Internet at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/home/regsguidance.asp> for additional information and updates on committee activities.

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### I. Background

In accordance with section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, this notice announces the quarterly meeting of the Practicing Physicians Advisory Council (the Council). The Secretary of Health and Human Services (the Secretary) is mandated by section 1868(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (the Act) to appoint a Practicing Physicians Advisory Council based on nominations submitted by medical organizations representing physicians. The Council meets quarterly to discuss certain proposed changes in regulations and manual instructions related to physician services, as identified by the Secretary. To the extent feasible and consistent with statutory deadlines, the Council's consultation must occur before **Federal Register** publication of the proposed

changes. The Council submits an annual report on its recommendations to the Secretary and the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) not later than December 31 of each year.

The Council consists of 15 physicians, including the Chair. Members of the Council include both participating and nonparticipating physicians, and physicians practicing in rural and underserved urban areas. At least 11 members of the Council must be physicians as described in section 1861(r)(1) of the Act; that is, State-licensed doctors of medicine or osteopathy. The remaining 4 members may include dentists, podiatrists, optometrists, and chiropractors. Members serve for overlapping 4-year terms.

Section 1868(a)(2) of the Act provides that the Council meet quarterly to discuss certain proposed changes in regulations and manual issuances that relate to physicians' services, identified by the Secretary. Section 1868(a)(3) of the Act provides for payment of expenses and per diem for Council members in the same manner as members of other advisory committees appointed by the Secretary. In addition to making these payments, the Department of Health and Human Services and CMS provide management and support services to the Council. The Secretary will appoint new members to the Council from among those candidates determined to have the expertise required to meet specific agency needs in a manner to ensure appropriate balance of the Council's membership.

The Council held its first meeting on May 11, 1992. The current members are: Vincent J. Bufalino, M.D., Chairperson; M. Leroy Sprang, M.D.; Karen S. Williams, M.D.; Joseph A. Giaimo, D.O.; Jonathan E. Siff, M.D., MBA; John E. Arradondo, M.D., MPH; Fredrica E. Smith, M.D.; Pamela A. Howard, M.D.; Tye J. Ouzounian, M.D.; Christopher J. Standaert, M.D.; Arthur D. Snow, Jr., M.D.; Gregory J. Przybylski, M.D.; Jeffrey A. Ross, DPM, M.D.; Roger L. Jordan, O.D.; and Janice A. Kirsch, M.D.

## II. Meeting Format and Agenda

The meeting will commence with the Council's Executive Director providing a status report, and the CMS responses to the recommendations made by the Council at the August 18, 2008 meeting, as well as prior meeting recommendations. Additionally, an update will be provided on the Physician Regulatory Issues Team. In accordance with the Council charter, we

are requesting assistance with the following agenda topics:

- Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule.
- Outpatient Prospective Payment System, (OPPS)/Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Fee Schedule Final Rule.
- Stark Reform.
- Value Based Purchasing-Efficiency Measures.
- CMS-FDA Collaboration.
- Medically Unlikely Edits (MUE) Update.

For additional information and clarification on these topics, contact the DFO as provided in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice. Individual physicians or medical organizations that represent physicians wishing to present a 5-minute oral testimony on agenda issues must register with the DFO by the date listed in the **DATES** section of this notice. Testimony is limited to agenda topics only. The number of oral testimonies may be limited by the time available. A written copy of the presenter's oral remarks must be submitted to the DFO for distribution to Council members for review before the meeting by the date listed in the **DATES** section of this notice. Physicians and medical organizations not scheduled to speak may also submit written comments to the DFO for distribution by the date listed in the **DATES** section of this notice.

## III. Meeting Registration and Security Information

The meeting is open to the public, but attendance is limited to the space available. Persons wishing to attend this meeting must register by contacting the DFO at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice or by telephone at the number listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice by the date specified in the **DATES** section of this notice.

Since this meeting will be held in a Federal Government Building, the Hubert H. Humphrey Building, Federal security measures are applicable. In planning your arrival time, we recommend allowing additional time to clear security. To gain access to the building, participants will be required to show a government-issued photo identification (for example, driver's license or passport), and must be listed on an approved security list before persons are permitted entrance. Persons not registered in advance will not be permitted into the Hubert H. Humphrey Building and will not be permitted to attend the Council meeting.

All persons entering the building must pass through a metal detector. In addition, all items brought to the Hubert

H. Humphrey Building, whether personal or for the purpose of presentation, are subject to inspection. We cannot assume responsibility for coordinating the receipt, transfer, transport, storage, set-up, safety, or timely arrival of any personal belongings or items used for the purpose of presentation.

Individuals requiring sign language interpretation or other special accommodation must contact the DFO via the contact information specified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice by the date listed in the **DATES** section of this notice.

**Authority:** (Section 1868 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ee) and section 10(a) of Pub. L. 92-463 (5 U.S.C. App. 2, section 10(a)).)

Dated: October 9, 2008.

**Kerry Weems,**

*Acting Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.*

[FR Doc. E8-24898 Filed 10-23-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4120-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA-2008-N-0553]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Survey to Evaluate the Effectiveness of Mississippi Delta Fish Advisories

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (the PRA), Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, and to allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on a voluntary consumer survey of fishing and fish consumption habits in the Mississippi Delta.

**DATES:** Submit written or electronic comments on the collection of information by December 23, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit electronic comments on the collection of information to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Submit written comments on the collection of information to the Division of Dockets