

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Decision to Evaluate a Petition to Designate a Class of Employees of Area IV of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory, To Be Included in the Special Exposure Cohort

AGENCY: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: HHS gives notice as required by 42 CFR 83.12(e) of a decision to evaluate a petition to designate a class of employees of Area IV of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory to be included in the Special Exposure Cohort under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000. The initial proposed definition for the class being evaluated, subject to revision as warranted by the evaluation, is as follows:

Facility: Santa Susana Field Laboratory.

Location: Area IV.

Job Titles and/or Job Duties: All employees of the Department of Energy, its predecessor agencies, and their contractors and subcontractors who worked in any area.

Period of Employment: January 1, 1959 to December 31, 1964.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stuart L. Hinnefeld, Interim Director, Office of Compensation Analysis and Support, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), 4676 Columbia Parkway, MS C-46, Cincinnati, OH 45226, Telephone 513-533-6800 (this is not a toll-free number). Information requests can also be submitted by e-mail to OCAS@CDC.GOV.

John Howard,

Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. E9-29381 Filed 12-9-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163-19-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[30Day-10-09AD]

Agency Forms Undergoing Paperwork Reduction Act Review

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publishes a list of information collection requests under review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). To request a copy of these requests, call the CDC Reports Clearance Officer at (404) 639-5960 or send an e-mail to omb@cdc.gov. Send written comments to CDC Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC or by fax to (202) 395-5806. Written comments should be received within 30 days of this notice.

Proposed Project

Evaluation of the Field Triage Decision Scheme: The National Trauma Triage Protocol—New—Division of Injury Response (DIR), National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Background and Brief Description

The “Field Triage Decision Scheme: The National Trauma Triage Protocol” educational initiative was developed to help emergency medical services (EMS) professionals (administrators, medical directors, trauma system leadership, and providers) learn about and implement the revised Field Triage Decision Scheme. The Decision Scheme is intended to be the foundation for the development of local and regional field triage protocols.

In the United States, injury is the leading cause of death for persons aged 1-44 years. EMS professionals have a substantial impact on care of the injured and on public health. At an injury scene, EMS professionals determine the severity of injury, initiate medical management, and identify the most appropriate facility to which the patient should be transported. This destination decision is made through a process called field triage. Certain hospitals have additional expertise, resources, and equipment to treat severely injured patients. These facilities are known as trauma centers and are classified from

Level I to Level IV. The risk for death of a severely injured person is 25% lower if the patient receives care at a Level I trauma center. However, not all patients require the services of a Level I trauma center; proper triage will ensure that patients who are injured less severely will be transported to a closer emergency department that is capable of managing their injuries.

In an effort to encourage use of improved triage procedures, CDC’s National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) worked with experts and partner organizations to develop the 2006 Field Triage Decision Scheme. In support of the 2006 Field Triage Decision Scheme, NCIPC developed a multi-media toolkit aimed at EMS professionals. The toolkit includes *A Guide to the Field Triage Decision Scheme: The National Trauma Triage Protocol*, a poster, CD-ROM, and pocket card to help EMS providers, planners, and administrators effectively train others and use the Decision Scheme criteria within their own systems.

After the national distribution, NCIPC will conduct an online survey of EMS professionals who have received a toolkit to assess the short-term impact of the communication initiative directed at EMS professionals about field triage procedures. Specifically, the survey will assess how many EMS professionals who received a copy of the Decision Scheme are using it, how EMS professionals have used the Decision Scheme and accompanying toolkit materials, how the materials have been used to educate others, what EMS professionals learned from the materials, and how the Decision Scheme changed EMS professional’s triage practices. Survey results will be used to identify the impact and applicability of the Decision Scheme and toolkit materials for EMS professionals.

NCIPC will also conduct focus groups with a segment of the survey respondents in order to have them elaborate on data submitted through the survey. These group interviews will focus on the extent the Decision Scheme is being used, how it is being implemented, self-reported changes in knowledge, and perceived impact on treatment of trauma patients. There are no costs to respondents other than their time. The data collection will occur over two years. The total estimated annual burden hours are 412.

ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Respondents	Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)
EMS Professionals	Online survey	1,500	1	15/60
	Screening/Recruitment for Focus Groups	64	1	5/60
	Focus Groups	32	1	1

Dated: December 4, 2009.

Maryam Daneshvar,
Acting Reports Clearance Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

[FR Doc. E9-29435 Filed 12-9-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163-18-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[30Day-10-0008]

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Proposed Project

Emergency Epidemic Investigations (0920-0008)—Extension—Office of Workforce and Career Development (OWCD), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Background and Brief Description

One of the objectives of CDC's epidemic services is to provide for the prevention and control of epidemics, and protect the population from public health crises such as human-made or natural biological disasters and

chemical emergencies. CDC meets this objective, in part, by training investigators, maintaining laboratory capabilities for identifying potential problems, collecting and analyzing data, and recommending appropriate actions to protect the public's health. When state, local, or foreign health authorities request help in controlling an epidemic or solving other health problems, CDC dispatches skilled epidemiologists from the Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) to investigate and resolve the problem. Resolving public health problems rapidly ensures cost-effective health care and enhances health promotion and disease prevention.

The purpose of the Emergency Epidemic Investigations data collection project is to collect data on the conditions surrounding and preceding the onset of a problem. The data must be collected in a timely fashion so that information can be used to develop prevention and control techniques, to interrupt disease transmission and to help identify the cause of an outbreak. Since the events necessitating the collections of information are of an emergency nature, most data collection is done by direct interview or written questionnaire and are one-time efforts related to a specific outbreak or circumstance. If during the emergency investigation, the need for further study is recognized, a project is designed and separate OMB clearance is required. Interviews are conducted to be as unobtrusive as possible and only the minimal information necessary is collected. The Emergency Epidemic Investigations data collection project is the principal source of data on outbreaks of infectious and noninfectious diseases, injuries, nutrition, environmental health, and occupational problems.

Each investigation contributes to the general knowledge about a particular type of problem or emergency, so that data collections are designed taking into account knowledge gained during similar situations in the past. Some questionnaires have been standardized, such as investigations of outbreaks aboard aircraft or cruise vessels.

The Emergency Epidemic Investigations data collection project provides a range of data on the characteristics of outbreaks and those affected by outbreaks. Data collected include demographic characteristics of the affected population, exposure to the causative agent(s), transmission patterns, and severity of the outbreak. These data, together with trend data, may be used to monitor the effects of change in the health care system, plan health services, improve the availability of medical services, and assess the health status of the population.

Users of the Emergency Epidemic Investigations data include, but are not limited to, Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) officers of the CDC, who investigate the patterns of disease or injury, the level of risky behaviors, causative agents, the transmission of the condition, and the impact of interventions. EIS is a two-year program of training and service in applied epidemiology through CDC, primarily for persons holding doctoral degrees.

There is no cost to the respondents other than their time for participation. Predicting the number of epidemic investigations that might occur in any given year is difficult. The previous three years' experience shows an annualized burden of 3,750 hours and respondent total of 15,000. Therefore, for this clearance, the annualized burden hours are estimated to be 3,750.

ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Type of respondents	Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)
General public	Emergency Epidemic Investigations	15,000	1	15/60
State and local officials	Emergency Epidemic Investigations	100	1	15/60