objectives of the Strategic Plan. Program staff will communicate anticipated actions to grantees, reviewers, and stakeholders. The staff will be open for suggestions to improve transparency or identify areas where clarification is needed.

Conclusion

There remains a need for fundamental research to address SRP's original mandates. The Program's sister agencies tasked with developing and implementing policies to protect health rely upon the best science. Likewise, communities living near sites impacted by hazardous substances need accessible science to fully participate in decisions made about site management. The stated objectives of the Strategic Plan (addressing relevant issues, maximizing impact, and fostering innovation) have been designed to better address stakeholders' needs. This Strategic Plan, as a living document, will guide the Program over the next five years. Program staff look forward to embracing this future with grantees, stakeholders, and others who share the greater vision of improving human health and the environment through reducing or eliminating the negative impacts of exposure to hazardous substances from hazardous waste sites.

Program staff thank the many contributors who have provided constructive comments during the strategic planning process and thereby assisted in the development of this draft strategic plan. We are now seeking comments on the draft strategic plan. Comments will be accepted for 30 days following the publication of this notice. Please e-mail comments to *Srpinfo@neihs.nih.gov*.

Dated: June 24, 2010.

William A. Suk,

Director, Center for Risk and Integrated Sciences, Director, Superfund Research Program, Division of Extramural Research and Training, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Institutes of Health.

[FR Doc. 2010–16072 Filed 6–30–10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the intention of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to request that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approve the proposed information collection project: "National Hospital Adverse Event Reporting System: Questionnaire Redesign and Testing." In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520, AHRQ invites the public to comment on this proposed information collection.

This proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** on May 3rd 2010 and allowed 60 days for public comment. One comment was received. The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comment.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by August 2, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted to: AHRQs OMB Desk Officer by fax at (202) 395–6974 (*attention:* AHRQs desk officer) or by e-mail at *OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov* (*attention:* AHRQ's desk officer).

Copies of the proposed collection plans, data collection instruments, and specific details on the estimated burden can be obtained from the AHRQ Reports Clearance Officer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Doris Lefkowitz, AHRQ Reports Clearance Officer, (301) 427–1477, or by e-mail at *doris.lefkowitz(AHRQ.hhs.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Proposed Project

National Hospital Adverse Event Reporting System: Questionnaire Redesign and Testing

As provider of operational support to the chair of the Quality Interagency Task Force (QuIC), AHRQ coordinated the Federal response to the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) 1999 report on medical errors and outlined specific initiatives the QuIC agencies will take. The Errors Workgroup within the QuIC identified the need for measures to evaluate the use of adverse medical event reporting for managing and improving patient safety within healthcare institutions. In response, AHRQ created the Hospital Adverse Event Reporting Survey to provide national estimates. This survey has been fielded twice, first in 2005 and again in 2008.

Revisions to the questionnaire and sample selection are now necessary in response to the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Rule (Patient Safety Rule), 42 CFR Part 3, issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, which implements the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005 (Patient Safety Act), 42 U.S.C. 299b–21 through 299b–26. The Patient Safety Rule and Patient Safety Act authorize the creation of Patient Safety Organizations (PSO) to enhance quality and safety by collecting patient safety reports of adverse events. AHRQ started listing PSOs in late 2008 pursuant to the Patient Safety Act. These organizations have begun working with hospitals and other providers to monitor patient safety events according to common reporting formats, and to improve patient safety. This revised survey will be used for the third round of data collection in 2011, under a separate OMB clearance, to assess the impact of the PSOs and the Patient Safety Act on the use of adverse event reporting systems and will incorporate questions about reporting using the AHRQ Common Formats, and reporting information to a Patient Safety Organization.

This project is being conducted by AHRQ's contractor, Westat, pursuant to AHRQ's statutory mandates to (1) promote health care quality improvement by conducting and supporting research that develops and presents scientific evidence regarding all aspects of health care, including methods for measuring quality and strategies for improving quality (42 U.S.C. 299(b)(1)(F)) and (2) conduct and support research on health care and on systems for the delivery of such care, including activities with respect to quality measurement and improvement (42 U.S.C. 299a(a)(2).

Method of Collection

This project will include the following data collections:

(1) Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with one risk manager or other representative responsible for adverse event reporting from 7 participating hospitals and with one person from the two participating PSOs. These interviews will be conducted to learn more about the current hospital adverse event reporting environment and to understand how adverse event reporting may have changed in response to the Patient Safety Act. Survey developers will use the information from these interviews to develop questions for the revised questionnaire.

(2) Cognitive interviews will be conducted with one risk manager or other representative responsible for adverse event reporting in 30 participating hospitals. The purpose of these cognitive interviews is to test and refine the revised questionnaire. The

questionnaire will be tested among respondents in hospitals with no reporting affiliation with a PSO, with reporting affiliations with one PSO, and with reporting affiliations with more than one PSO.

Results from these interviews will help inform actions by AHRQ to encourage effective adverse event reporting by hospitals, as part of its patient safety initiative, including standardization of reporting so that consistent concepts, information, and terminology are used in the patient safety arena. The survey can also serve as a baseline for changes about hospital-based adverse event reporting to Patient Safety Organizations and how the Patient Safety Act might have affected reporting structures and processes.

Estimated Annual Respondent Burden

Exhibit 1 shows the estimated annualized burden hours for the respondents time to participate in this project. Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with 9 persons representing 7 hospitals and 2 PSOs and will last for about an hour. Cognitive interviews will be conducted with one person in each of 30 participating hospitals and are expected to take one hour to complete. The total annual burden hours are estimated to be 39 hours. Exhibit 2 shows the estimated annual cost burden associated with the respondents' time to participate in the research. The total annual cost burden is estimated to be $1,664.

EXHIBIT 1—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Form name	Number of organizations	Number of responses per organization	Hours per response	Total burden hours
Semi-structured interviews	9	1	1	9
Cognitive interviews	30	1	1	30
Total	39	NA	NA	39

EXHIBIT 2—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST BURDEN

Form name	Number of organizations	Total burden hours	Average hourly wage rate*	Total cost burden
Semi-structured interviews	9	9	$42.67	$384
Cognitive interviews	30	30	42.67	1,280
Total	39	39	NA	1,664

*Based upon the mean of the average wages, National Compensation Survey: Occupational wages in the United States 2008, "U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics."

Estimated Annual Costs to the Federal Government

Exhibit 3 shows the estimated total and annualized cost to the Federal government to conduct this redesign of the Adverse Event Reporting Questionnaire and associated sample design. Since this project will last for one year the total and annualized costs are the same. The total cost is estimated to be $120,000.

EXHIBIT 3—ESTIMATED TOTAL AND ANNUALIZED COST

Cost component	Total cost	Annualized cost
Project Development	$24,000	$24,000
Data Collection Activities	46,000	46,000
Data Processing and Analysis	26,000	26,000
Project Management	24,000	24,000
Total	120,000	120,000

Request for Comments

In accordance with the above-cited Paperwork Reduction Act legislation, comments on AHRQ's information collection are requested with regard to any of the following: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of AHRQ healthcare research and healthcare information dissemination functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of AHRQ's estimate of burden (including hours and costs) of the proposed collection(s) of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information upon the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the Agency's subsequent request for OMB approval of the proposed information collection. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: June 22, 2010.

Carolyn M. Clancy,

Director.

[FR Doc. 2010–15797 Filed 6–30–10; 8:45 am]

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