

Estimated Annual Costs to the Federal Government total cost to the government of the entire evaluation contract is \$8,258,311 (including a base period and four option periods); the annualized cost is \$1,651,662 per year (Exhibit 3). These costs will be incurred from 2010 to 2012.

Exhibit 3 shows the total and annualized cost for this evaluation. The

EXHIBIT 3—ESTIMATED TOTAL AND ANNUAL COST

Cost component	Total cost	Annual cost
Administration	\$571,422	\$114,284
Coordination	38,003	7,601
Stakeholder Feedback	201,637	40,327
Technical Expert Panel	359,276	71,855
Evaluation Design & Implementation	3,981,390	796,278
Technical Assistance Plan	934,440	186,888
Data Collection Instruments	138,997	27,799
OMB Clearance	35,617	17,808
Section 508 Compliance	13,883	2,777
Data and Analysis Reports	735,426	147,085
Interim Evaluation Reports	408,803	81,761
Dissemination	736,149	184,037
Final Report	103,269	103,269
Total	8,258,311	1,651,662

Request for Comments

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, 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: July 21, 2011.

Carolyn M. Clancy,
Director.

[FR Doc. 2011–19391 Filed 8–2–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–90–M

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: “Evaluation of the Technical Assistance to ARRA Complex Patient Grantees Project” In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501–3521, AHRQ invites the public to comment on this proposed information collection.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by October 3, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted to: Doris Lefkowitz, Reports Clearance Officer, AHRQ, by e-mail at doris.lefkowitz@AHRQ.hhs.gov.

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

Evaluation of the Technical Assistance to ARRA Complex Patient Grantees Project Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) awarded \$473 million in grants and contracts to support patient-centered outcomes research. As part of this investment, AHRQ funded fourteen R21 (exploratory) grants and thirteen R24 (infrastructure development) grants to generate new knowledge on individuals with multiple chronic conditions. This work is critical to improve the understanding of how to prioritize evidence-based services for patients with multiple co-morbidities and to suggest appropriate adaptations to guidelines for their care.

In order to support the R21 and R24 complex patient grantees, AHRQ funded a Learning Network and Technical Assistance Center (LN&TAC) to encourage collaboration among the researchers and help them share research methods, definitions and products through in-person meetings, small workgroups and network facilitation. The LN&TAC will provide the grantees with technical assistance regarding research design, data collection, data analysis, public use dataset development, and dissemination.

Through the LN&TAC AHRQ will support work to:

(1) Create and support a Learning Network of the complex patient grantees to facilitate advancement of infrastructure development, as well as

to leverage developments and learning across the program. The Learning Network will give these grantees the opportunity to share information with and learn from other research teams, provide resources for data management and other research-related issues, and synthesize and disseminate findings that transcend individual projects.

(2) Provide both group and individual technical assistance to grantees as they address issues of ARRA reporting, infrastructure development, data sharing, and creation of public use data sets.

(3) Disseminate results, including developing materials targeted to researchers and policy-makers to describe study results and facilitate future use of newly created datasets. This will include a marketing plan to advertise availability of datasets and promote their use.

(4) Develop and implement an evaluation of the above activities throughout the project.

The purpose of this Information Collection Request is to evaluate the effectiveness of the LN&TAC. The goals of the evaluation are to:

(1) Ascertain whether expected outcomes of the LN&TAC were achieved;

(2) Assess whether the LN&TAC met the needs and expectations of the grantees;

(3) Identify challenges and lessons learned, and determine the feasibility and advisability of developing similar project models in the future.

This study is being conducted by AHRQ through its contractor, Abt Associates, pursuant to AHRQ's statutory authority to "conduct and support research, evaluations, and training, support demonstration projects, research networks and multidisciplinary centers, provide technical assistance, and disseminate information on healthcare and on systems for the delivery of such care, including activities with respect to the quality, effectiveness, efficiency,

appropriateness and value of healthcare services." 42 U.S.C. 299a(a)(1).

Method of Collection

To meet the goals of this evaluation the following data collections will be implemented:

(1) LN Meeting Evaluation—Grantees who attend the three annual in-person Learning Network meetings will be asked to complete the LN Meeting Evaluation to provide immediate feedback about their level of satisfaction with the meeting (including session topics and speakers) and make suggestions about how the meeting could be improved.

(2) Group TA Evaluation—Grantees who participate in group technical assistance activities, such as webinars and the TA given at annual meetings, will be asked to complete the Group TA Evaluation to provide feedback about their level of satisfaction with the group TA (including session leader), how effective the TA was, and make suggestions about how the TA session could have been better.

(3) Individual TA Evaluation—Grantees who request individual technical assistance will be asked to complete the Individual TA Evaluation to provide feedback about their level of satisfaction with the TA (including session leader), how effective the TA was, and make suggestions about how the TA session could have been better.

(4) Annual Survey—All 27 Complex Patient grantees will be asked to complete the Annual Survey once a year. This survey is designed to measure whether, due to their participation in the project, grantees have experienced changes in knowledge, confidence or attitudes related to research activities and grant requirements, changes in their research itself (design, methods, and/or analyses), and/or if participation has increased collaboration (e.g., sharing methods, developing new coding, merging data sets) among the Complex Patient researchers, as well as

satisfaction with the LN&TAC in general.

(5) Annual Interview—The Annual Interview will be administered with a small subset of 5 grantees per year, and will be used to augment the Annual Survey with more in-depth qualitative data. Therefore, similar questions will be asked in the Annual Interview as are asked in the Annual Survey, but the interview will allow for probing and clarification of answers. Different grantees will be asked to participate in the interview each year, such that no grantee participates in the Annual Interview more than once during the three year contract.

These evaluation instruments are designed to capture a combination of quantitative and qualitative data. No claim is made that the results from this study will be generalizable in the statistical sense. Rather, this evaluation is aimed at determining the effectiveness of this particular program.

Estimated Annual Respondent Burden

Exhibit 1 shows the estimated annualized burden hours for the grantees' time to participate in the surveys and interviews. The LN Meeting Evaluation will be completed by about 22 grantees and takes about 20 minutes to complete. The Group TA Evaluation will be completed by 8 grantees 4 times a year, although not necessarily the same 8 persons each time and will take 5 minutes to complete. The Individual TA Evaluation will be completed by about 15 grantees annually and takes 5 minutes to complete. The Annual Survey will be completed by 22 grantees and will take about 10 minutes to complete. Annual Interviews will be conducted with 5 persons annually and will last 45 minutes. The total annualized burden hours are estimated to be 19 hours.

Exhibit 2 shows the estimated annualized cost burden for the grantees' time to provide the requested data. The estimated total cost burden is about \$774.

EXHIBIT 1—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED

Form name	No. of respondents	No. of responses per respondent	Hours per response	Total burden hours
LN Meeting Evaluation	22	1	20/60	7
Group TA Evaluation	8	4	5/60	3
Individual TA Evaluation	15	1	5/60	1
Annual Survey	22	1	10/60	4
Annual Interview	5	1	45/60	4
Total	72	na	na	19

EXHIBIT 2—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED

Form name	No. of respondents	Total burden hours	Average hourly wage rate*	Total cost burden
LN Meeting Evaluation	22	7	\$40.75	\$285
Group TA Evaluation	8	3	40.75	122
Individual TA Evaluation	15	1	40.75	41
Annual Survey	22	4	40.75	163
Annual Interview	5	4	40.75	163
Total	72	19	40.75	774

*Based upon the mean hourly wage rate for Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists, from the National Compensation Survey: Occupational wages in the United States May 2009, "U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics," accessed on April 26, 2011.

Estimated Annual Costs to the Federal Government

The total cost of this contract to the government is \$178,137 over the three

years of the project (September 27, 2010 to September 26, 2013). Therefore, the annualized cost to the government of

the evaluation of the Complex Patient LN&TAC is \$59,379.

EXHIBIT 3—ESTIMATED TOTAL AND ANNUALIZED COST

Cost component	Total cost	Annualized cost
Project Development	\$70,247	\$23,416
Data Collection Activities	54,636	18,212
Data Processing and Analysis	31,220	10,406
Overhead	22,034	7,345
Total	178,137	59,379

Request for Comments

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, 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: July 21, 2011.

Carolyn M. Clancy,
Director.

[FR Doc. 2011-19392 Filed 8-2-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-90-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[60Day-11-11JJ]

Proposed Data Collections Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

In compliance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects. To request more information on the proposed projects or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, call 404-639-5960 and send comments to Daniel L. Holcomb, CDC Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road, MS-D74, Atlanta, GA 30333 or send an e-mail to omb@cdc.gov.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the

proposed collection 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 on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Proposed Project

Evaluating Locally-Developed HIV Prevention Interventions for African-American MSM in Los Angeles—New—National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, TB Prevention (NCHHSTP), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Background and Brief Description

Data reported from 33 states with HIV reporting indicate the burden of HIV/AIDS is most concentrated in the African American population compared to other racial/ethnic groups. Of the 49,704 African American males diagnosed with HIV between 2001 and 2004, 54% of these cases were among men who have sex with men (MSM). In Los Angeles County (LAC), the proportion of HIV/AIDS cases among African American males attributable to male-to-male sexual transmission is