

- Electronic responses are preferred and may be addressed to: anju.abraham@hhs.gov.

- Written responses should be addressed to: National Vaccine Program Office, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue SW., Room 733G.3B, Washington, DC 20201, *Attn:* NVAC Mid-course Review *c/o* Anju Abraham.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anju Abraham, MS, MPH, National Vaccine Program Office, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Department of Health and Human Services; telephone 202–205–5641; email anju.abraham@hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Public health represents a collaboration of multiple sectors in society working together to prevent disease and promote health. These concerted efforts include the tremendous impacts of the U.S. vaccine and immunization system, which represents one of the most significant public health achievements in the 20th century. Estimates suggest that routine childhood immunizations prevented 322 million illnesses and averted 732,000 premature deaths from vaccine-preventable illnesses in children born between 1994–2013, with an estimated societal cost-savings of \$1.38 trillion.

The 2010 National Vaccine Plan provides a ten-year strategic direction for all U.S. vaccine and immunization related activities to create a robust and coordinated system to improve the health of Americans by achieving optimal prevention of infectious diseases through vaccination. The Department of Health and Human Services recognized the need to conduct an evaluation of the plan and subsequently charged the National Vaccine Advisory Committee with making recommendations that would address the progress of the 2010 National Vaccine Plan.

In March 2016, the NVAC formed a Mid-Course Review Working Group (MCRWG) to evaluate the status of progress on the goals of the National Vaccine Plan (the document can be found here: www.hhs.gov/nvpo/national-vaccine-plan/midcourse/index.html) and develop recommendations to the ASH. The MCRWG began their efforts by reviewing and assessing the findings from the National Vaccine Program's (NVPO) Mid-course Review to identify the opportunity areas. Then, the MCRWG shifted its focus to coordinate additional information collection from

non-federal stakeholders to represent consumer groups and from federal stakeholders to further inform their findings and recommendations. Through a number of conference calls, electronic communication, and public discussions at the NVAC meetings, the working group identified a number of draft recommendations. These recommendations frame the five areas that represent opportunities to advance the National Vaccine Program over the remaining five years of the National Vaccine Plan. These five areas of opportunity include:

(1) Strengthen health information and surveillance systems to track, analyze and visualize disease, immunization coverage, and safety data, both domestically and globally;

(2) Foster and facilitate efforts to strengthen confidence in vaccines and the immunization system to increase coverage rates across the lifespan;

(3) Eliminate financial and systems barriers for providers and consumers to facilitate access to routinely recommended vaccines;

(4) Strengthen the science base for the development and licensure of vaccines;

(5) Facilitate vaccine development.

The NVAC draft report outlines the background and rationale for each of the opportunity areas and addresses the challenges, characteristics that constitute success, metrics to measure each area, and proposed metrics to be developed in the future. The conclusions and recommendations detail how the ASH can support HHS activities in these areas.

II. Request for Comment

NVPO, on behalf of the NVAC Mid-course Review Working Group, requests input on the draft report and draft recommendations. In addition to general comments on the draft report and draft recommendations, NVPO is seeking input on characteristics of success, challenges, and metrics to achieve success in the five opportunity areas outlined in the report. Please limit your comments to six (6) pages.

III. Potential Responders

HHS invites input from a broad range of stakeholders including individuals and organizations that have interests U.S. vaccine and immunization efforts and the role of HHS in advancing those efforts.

Examples of potential responders include, but are not limited to, the following:

- General public;
- advocacy groups, non-profit organizations, and public interest organizations;

- academics, professional societies, and healthcare organizations;
- public health officials and immunization program managers;
- physician and non-physician providers that administer immunization services, including pharmacists; and
- representatives from the private sector.

When responding, please self-identify with any of the above or other categories (include all that apply) and your name. Anonymous submissions will not be considered. Written submissions should not exceed six (6) pages. Please do not send proprietary, commercial, financial, business, confidential, trade secret, or personal information.

Dated: November 10, 2016.

Bruce Gellin,

Executive Secretary, National Vaccine Advisory Committee, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health, Director, National Vaccine Program Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute; Notice of Charter Renewal

In accordance with Title 41 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Section 102–3.65(a), notice is hereby given that the Charter for the National Cancer Institute Council of Research Advocates was renewed for an additional two-year period on August 17, 2016.

It is determined that the National Cancer Institute Council of Research Advocates is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the National Cancer Institute and National Institutes of Health by law, and that these duties can best be performed through the advice and counsel of this group.

Inquiries may be directed to Jennifer Spaeth, Director, Office of Federal, Advisory Committee Policy, Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Democracy Boulevard, Suite 1000, Bethesda, Maryland 20892 (Mail code 4875), Telephone (301) 496–2123, or spaethj@od.nih.gov.

Jennifer S. Spaeth,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

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