

recommendations; and develop a strategy for disseminating such proposed updates and recommendations to relevant federal agencies and the general public.

The Task Force will convene its third public meeting, on May 9–10, to discuss updates to existing best practices and recommendations based on gaps and inconsistencies for pain management, including chronic and acute pain. The Task Force will receive presentations on implementation and dissemination efforts. The Task Force will deliberate and vote the final recommendations for updates to best practices and recommendations for chronic and acute pain management and prescribing pain medication based on the components outlined in Section 101 of the CARA statute. Information about the final meeting agenda will be posted prior to the meeting on the Task Force website: <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/advisorycommittees/pain/index.html>.

Members of the public are invited to participate in person or by webcast. To join the meeting, individuals must pre-register at the Task Force website at <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/advisorycommittees/pain/index.html>. Seating will be provided first to those who have pre-registered. Anyone who has not pre-registered will be accommodated on a first come, first served basis if additional seats are available 10 minutes before the meeting starts. Individuals who need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should indicate the special accommodation when registering online or by notifying the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health via email at paintaskforce@hhs.gov by April 29, 2019. The subject line of the email should read, “Task Force Meeting Accommodations.” Non-U.S. citizens who plan to attend in person are required to provide additional information and must notify the Task Force staff via email at paintaskforce@hhs.gov 10 business days before the meeting, April 29, 2019. For those unable to attend in person, a live webcast will be available. More information on registration and accessing the webcast can be found at <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/advisorycommittees/pain/index.html>.

Members of the public can provide oral comments at the Task Force meeting on May 9, 2019, at 11:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m. ET. Please indicate your willingness to provide oral comments on the registration form which can be found at <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/advisorycommittees/pain/index.html>. Individuals who pre-register will be given priority to provide oral public

comment within the order they are received. The public comment period will not be extended beyond the allotted time on the agenda. Public comments made during the meeting will be limited to three minutes per person to ensure time is allotted for all those wishing to speak. Please note that the public comment period may end before the time indicated, following the last call for comments. Individuals who are not able to provide oral comments are encouraged to submit their written comments. Written comments should not exceed one page in length. Individuals submitting written comments should submit their comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>, docket number HHS–OS–2019–0003.

Dated: March 15, 2019.

Vanila M. Singh,

Chief Medical Officer, Chair, Pain Management Task Force, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Biodefense Science Board: Call for Nominees

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) seeks applications from qualified individuals for membership on the National Biodefense Science Board (NBSB) or (Board). Terms of five members expire December 31, 2019; therefore, the HHS Secretary (Secretary) will appoint five new voting members. Applicants to those positions may be nominated by a relevant organization or may nominate themselves based on their expertise within the following stakeholder groups: Industry, academia, health care consumer organizations, and organizations representing other appropriate stakeholders. Please visit the NBSB website at <https://www.phe.gov/nbsb> for all application submission information, additional information regarding the qualifications expected for applicants, and application instructions.

DATES: *Nomination Period:* The nomination period is from April 15,

2019, to June 15, 2019, at 11:59 p.m. (EST).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: CDR Christopher Perdue, MD, MPH, Designated Federal Official, NBSB, ASPR, HHS, office: 202–401–5837, email address: christopher.perdue@hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 319M of the Public Health Service Act, HHS has established the NBSB to provide expert advice and guidance to the Secretary on scientific, technical, and other matters of special interest to HHS regarding current and future chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological agents, whether naturally occurring, accidental, or deliberate. The Board may also provide advice and guidance to the Secretary and/or the ASPR on other matters related to public health emergency preparedness and response.

Description of Duties: The Board advises the Secretary and/or ASPR on current and future trends, challenges, and opportunities presented by advances in biological and life sciences, biotechnology, and genetic engineering with respect to threats posed by naturally occurring infectious diseases and chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear agents. At the request of the Secretary and/or ASPR, the Board reviews and considers information and findings received from the working groups established under 42 U.S.C. 247d–7f(b). At the request of the Secretary and/or ASPR, the Board provides recommendations and findings for expanded, intensified, and coordinated biodefense research and development activities. The Secretary and/or ASPR may assign additional advisory duties concerning public health emergency preparedness and response at his/her discretion.

Structure: The Board consists of 13 voting members, including the chairperson; additionally, there may be non-voting ex officio members. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 247d–7f(a), the Secretary appoints members and the chairperson from among the nation’s preeminent scientific, public health, and medical experts, as follows: (a) Such federal officials as the Secretary determines are necessary to support the functions of the Board; (b) four individuals from the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and device industries; (c) four individuals representing academia; and, (d) five other members as appointed by the Secretary, one of whom is a practicing health care professional, one of whom is from an organization representing health care consumers, one of whom has pediatric subject matter expertise, and

one of whom is a state, tribal, territorial, or local public health official. The Secretary appoints members who are not full-time or permanent part-time federal employees as non-pay special government employees.

Dated: March 27, 2019.

Robert P. Kadlec,

Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response.

[FR Doc. 2019-06329 Filed 4-1-19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Biodefense Summit: Implementing the National Biodefense Strategy: Notification of Public Meeting and Solicitation of Advice

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is announcing a public meeting, Biodefense Summit: Implementing the National Biodefense Strategy (Strategy). Implementing the Strategy involves partners among multiple sectors, including medical; public, animal, and plant health; emergency response; scientific and technical; law enforcement; industrial; academic; diplomatic; defense and security; intelligence; and nonproliferation and counterproliferation stakeholders. This meeting is being held to introduce the Strategy to these groups and to solicit feedback from them. The meeting will be open to representatives from invited organizations and the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on April 17, 2019, from 8:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: National Academies of Sciences Building, 2101 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20418.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: CAPT Theresa Lawrence, Ph.D.; Director, Division of Policy, Office of Strategy, Policy, Planning, and Requirements, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Office of the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services; Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. Federal Building; 200 C St SW, Washington, DC 20515; Theresa.Lawrence@HHS.GOV; 202-401-5879

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda: On April 17, 2019, ASPR will convene a meeting at the National Academies of Sciences Building, 2101 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20418 from 8:45 a.m.–5:00 p.m. with non-federal stakeholders to discuss and solicit input on implementing the National Biodefense Strategy, pursuant to National Security Presidential Memorandum 14, signed September 18, 2018.

The meeting will focus on a set of questions on the meeting agenda, posted at <http://www.phe.gov/biodefense>, on which the U.S. Government would specifically like to solicit comment. These questions concern matters such as the identification of gaps and opportunities for improvement in biodefense.

The meeting will be conducted as a series of panels where participants will be asked to discuss particular topics of interest to the Government. Each panel will include ample time for in-depth discussion of the issues surrounding each topic.

The meeting is open to the public and free of charge. Pre-registration is encouraged, however, registration will be restricted due to limited space. Information about registering for the meeting is available at <http://www.phe.gov/biodefense>. Any groups or individuals who cannot attend the meeting are encouraged to submit written comments.

Background: Biological threats are among the most serious threats facing the United States. In today's interconnected world, biological incidents have the potential to cost thousands of American lives, cause significant anxiety, and disrupt travel and trade. The Strategy sets the course for the United States to combat the serious biothreats our country faces, whether they arise from natural outbreaks of disease, accidents involving high consequence pathogens, or the actions of terrorists or state actors. Preparing for biothreats is a critical aspect of our national security, and the Strategy encompasses five goals for strengthening the biodefense enterprise including:

1. Enabling risk awareness to inform decision-making across the biodefense enterprise;
2. Ensuring biodefense enterprise capabilities to prevent bioincidents;
3. Ensuring biodefense enterprise preparedness to reduce the impacts of bioincidents;
4. Rapidly responding to limit the impacts of bioincidents; and
5. Facilitating recovery to restore the community, the economy, and the environment after a bioincident.

The National Biodefense Strategy calls for engagement and cooperation across all levels of government, to include state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as internationally. It involves partnership with multiple sectors, including the medical; public, animal, and plant health; emergency response; scientific and technical; law enforcement; industrial; academic; diplomatic; defense and security; intelligence; and nonproliferation and counterproliferation sectors, among others. Engagement with non-governmental organizations and the private sector is critical to prevent the spread of disease and respond to the next outbreak before it becomes an epidemic.

Streaming Webcast of the Public Meeting: This public meeting will also be webcast. Information about registering for the webcast will be available at <http://www.phe.gov/biodefense>.

Meeting Summary: Please be advised that a summary of the meeting will be accessible at <http://www.phe.gov/biodefense> as soon as it is available.

Written Public Input is Encouraged: Even though space or time constraints may preclude some interested members of the public from attending, we understand that these issues are broadly of interest to the American people. Given the importance of the Nation's biodefense to every American, the public is encouraged to submit written comments on a set of questions on the meeting agenda posted at www.phe.gov/biodefense, on which the U.S. Government would specifically like to solicit comment. These questions concern such matters as the identification of gaps and opportunities for improvement in biodefense. Comments should be submitted to ASPRBIO@hhs.gov or the address above by May 1, 2019.

Dated: March 27, 2019.

Robert P. Kadlec,

Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response.

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