SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The development of a national strategy on vector-borne diseases including tickborne diseases was mandated by Congress through Section 404 of H.R. 1865, the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act. Section 404 is Section 317u of the Public Service Act and is named the Kay Hagan Tick Act (Act), in honor of Senator Kay Hagan, who died from complications of having tickborne Powassan virus disease. The Act requires HHS to develop a national strategy to address vector-borne diseases including tickborne diseases (National Strategy). Preparation of the National Strategy builds upon an inter-departmental effort to develop A National Public Health Framework for the Prevention and Control of Vector-Borne Diseases in Humans, released in September 2020.[1]

Vector-borne diseases, including diseases caused by mosquitoes, ticks, and fleas, pose an increasing threat to our nation's health. From 2004 to 2018, U.S. cases doubled and nine new pathogens—including chikungunya and Zika viruses—were introduced or discovered.[2] [3] Tickborne diseases account for nearly 80% of all U.S. vector-borne disease cases, with approximately 476,000 Americans diagnosed and treated for Lyme disease annually.[2] [4] When not diagnosed and treated early, consequences of Lyme disease can include death due to acute carditis as well as late manifestations that can be difficult to treat and costly.[5]

Local health departments and vector control organizations are the nation's first defense against vector-borne disease outbreaks. Yet some evidence indicates they lack the tools, resources, and training to prevent these outbreaks. For example, an assessment of mosquito control competency at the local-level found that during the 2016–2017 Zika emergency response 84% lacked one or more core vector control competencies.[6] In parallel, widespread and growing insecticide-resistance threatens the ability of standard pest control measures to control these disease vectors. Additional capacity is needed at state and local levels for vector tracking, testing, and control as well as the prevention of vector-borne disease transmission. Currently no effective population-level interventions that address tickborne diseases exist. No human vaccines against any vector-borne diseases endemic to the continental United States are widely available. Additionally, evidence-based community interventions (*e.g.,* acaricide spraying, animal host vaccination) have not been studied sufficiently to support their use as effective measures to prevent vector-borne disease.

Recognizing the numerous public health challenges and stakeholders involved in the prevention of vector-borne diseases, OASH is working closely with a range of federal partners to lead the development of the National Strategy. This five-year strategy will establish goals to address vector-borne diseases including improving surveillance, diagnosis, prevention, treatment, and research. It will also identify strategies and benchmarks to measure and drive progress toward achieving the goals. To develop this plan, OASH seeks input from subject matter experts, non-federal stakeholders, and other members of the public. Examples of these stakeholders may include health care providers, national professional organizations, state and local health departments, community-based and faith-based organizations, manufacturers, researchers, advocates, and persons affected by vector-borne diseases.

This RFI seeks public input on strengthening and improving the nation's response to vector-borne diseases in a number of areas. Responses may address one or more of the areas below:

1. What do you recommend as the top priorities to address vector-borne diseases in the United States during the next five years? Why are these the most important priorities?
2. What goals, objectives, and strategies would you propose for each of your top priority areas?
3. Do you have recommendations on specific research or programmatic efforts to improve surveillance, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of vector-borne diseases?
4. Any additional topics you wish to provide input on.

The information received will inform the development of the National Strategy to address vector-borne diseases.

Kristen Honey,

Chief Data Scientist, Senior Advisor, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Endnotes

[1] *A National Public Health Framework for the Prevention and Control of Vector-Borne Diseases in Humans,* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 28 Sept. 2020, *www.cdc.gov/ncezid/dvbd/pdf/Brochure_National_Framework_VBDs-P.pdf.*

[2] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2019. National notifiable diseases surveillance system, 2018 annual tables of infectious disease data. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *https://www.cdc.gov/nndss/infectious-tables.html.*

[3] Rosenberg, R., N.P. Lindsey, M. Fischer, C.J. Gregory, A.F. Hinckley, P.S. Mead, G. Paz-Bailey, S.H. Waterman, N.A. Drexler, G.J. Kersh, et al. 2018. Vital signs: Trends in reported vectorborne disease cases—United States and territories, 2004–2016. MMWR. Morb. Mortal. Wkly. Rep. 67: 496–501. *https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/mm6717e1.htm.*

[4] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2018. Lyme Disease. *https://www.cdc.gov/lyme/stats/humancases.html.*

[5] Marx et al. Ann Intern Med. 2020;172(3):222–224. DOI: 10.7326/L19–0483.

[5] National Association of County and City Health Officials. 2017. NACCHO report: Vector control assessment in Zika virus priority jurisdictions. Washington, DC: National Association of County and City Health Officials; *http://nacchopreparedness.org/naccho-report-vector-control-assessment-in-zika-virus-priority-jurisdictions.*

[FR Doc. 2021–08167 Filed 4–26–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4150–28–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute on Aging; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute on Aging Initial Review Group; Career Development for Clinicians/Health Professionals AGCD–3 Clinical and Patient-oriented career awards.

Date: June 1–2, 2021.

Time: 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institute on Aging, Gateway Building, 7201 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Video Meeting).

Contact Person: Maurizio Grimaldi, MD, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Scientific Review Branch, National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health, 7201 Wisconsin Avenue, Gateway Building, Suite 2W200, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 496–9374, *grimaldim2@mail.nih.gov.*

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.866, Aging Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: April 21, 2021.

Miguelina Perez,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2021–08670 Filed 4–26–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG–2009–0973]

Random Drug Testing Rate for Covered Crewmembers for 2021

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of minimum random drug testing rate.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard has set the calendar year 2021 minimum random drug testing rate at 50 percent of covered crewmembers.

DATES: The minimum random drug testing rate is effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this notice, please contact Mr. Patrick Mannion, Drug and Alcohol Prevention and Investigation Program Manager, Office of Investigations and Analysis (CG–INV), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, via email; *DAPI@uscg.mil* or phone, 202–372–1033.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Coast Guard requires marine employers to establish random drug testing programs for covered crewmembers in accordance with 46 CFR 16.230. Marine employers are required by 46 CFR 16.500 to collect and maintain a record of drug testing data for each calendar year, and submit this data to the Coast Guard in a Management Information System (MIS) Report by March 15 of the following year.

Each year, the Coast Guard will publish a notice reporting the results of random drug testing for the previous calendar year's MIS data and the required minimum annual percentage rate for random drug testing for the next calendar year. The purpose of setting a minimum random drug testing rate is to promote maritime safety by establishing an effective deterrent to drug misuse within the maritime workforce. Intoxicated operations poses a serious threat to life, property and the environment in the maritime commons. As such, the minimum random drug testing rate is intended to deter and detect illegal drug misuse in the maritime industry.

The Coast Guard announces that the minimum random drug testing rate for calendar year 2021 is 50 percent. The Coast Guard continues a 50 percent minimum random drug testing rate for 2021 as a result of MIS data for the most recent reporting year which indicated that the positive rate continues to be greater than one percent. 46 CFR 16.230(f)(2) requires the Commandant to set the minimum random drug testing rate at 50 percent when the positivity rate for drug use is greater than 1 percent.

For 2021, the minimum random drug testing rate will be 50 percent of covered employees for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in accordance with 46 CFR 16.230(e).

Dated: April 21, 2021.

Wayne R. Arguin,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Director of Inspections and Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2021–08706 Filed 4–26–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG–2021–0180]

Cooperative Research and Development Agreement—Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) Technology for Coast Guard (CG) Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Operations

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of intent; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard announces its intent to enter into one or more cooperative research and development agreements (CRADA) with companies to evaluate a detect and avoid (DAA) system to determine its potential use in a maritime environment to enable the Coast Guard to safely fly sUAS beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS). The Coast Guard will conduct flight testing and evaluations of sUAS under a wide variety of simulated but realistic and relevant real-world maritime operational scenarios, such as: Law enforcement; search and rescue; and maritime environmental responses. The Coast Guard is currently considering separate partnerships with Scientific Applications & Research Associates (SARA) Inc., Iris Automation Inc., and Echodyne Corp. and solicits public comment on the possible participation of other parties in the proposed CRADAs, and the nature of that participation. The Coast Guard also invites other potential non-Federal participants, who have the interest and capability to bring similar contributions to this type of research, to consider submitting proposals for consideration in similar CRADAs.

DATES: Comments must reach the Coast Guard on or before May 27, 2021. Synopses of proposals regarding future CRADAs must also reach the Coast Guard on or before May 27, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments online at *http://www.regulations.gov* following website instructions. Submit synopses of proposals regarding future CRADAs to Mr. Steve Dunn at his address listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this notice or wish to submit proposals for future CRADAs, contact Mr. Steve Dunn, Project Official, Aviation Branch, U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center, 1 Chelsea Street, New London, CT 06320, telephone 860–271–2600, email *RDC-Info@uscg.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Participation and Request for Comments

We request public comments on this notice. Although we do not plan to publish responses to comments in the **Federal Register**, we will respond directly to commenters and may modify our proposal in light of comments.

Comments should be marked with docket number USCG–2021–0180 and should provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You should provide personal contact information so that we can contact you if we have questions regarding your comments; but please note that all comments will be posted to the online docket without change and that any personal information you include can be searchable online. For more about privacy and the docket, visit *http://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice.* We do accept anonymous comments.

We encourage you to submit comments through the Federal Portal at *http://www.regulations.gov.* If your material cannot be submitted using *http://www.regulations.gov,* contact the Coast Guard (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**). Documents mentioned in this notice and all public comments, will be in our online docket at *http://www.regulations.gov* and can be viewed by following that website's instructions. Additionally, if you go to the online docket and sign up for email