

Physiology, and Biological Chemistry Research; 93.350, B—Cooperative Agreements; 93.859, Biomedical Research and Research Training, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: December 16, 2021.

**David W. Freeman,**

*Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

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**BILLING CODE 4140-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; 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 of Environmental Health Sciences Special Emphasis Panel; Mechanism for Time-Sensitive Research Opportunities in Environmental Health Sciences (R21).

*Date:* January 10, 2022.

*Time:* 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Keystone Building, 530 Davis Drive, Durham, NC 27709 (Virtual Meeting).

*Contact Person:* Laura A. Thomas, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Scientific Review Branch, Division of Extramural Research and Training, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, 984-287-3328, [laura.thomas@nih.gov](mailto:laura.thomas@nih.gov).

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.115, Biometry and Risk Estimation—Health Risks from Environmental Exposures; 93.142, NIEHS Hazardous Waste Worker Health and Safety Training; 93.143, NIEHS Superfund Hazardous Substances—Basic Research and Education; 93.894, Resources and Manpower Development in the Environmental Health Sciences; 93.113, Biological Response to Environmental Health Hazards; 93.114, Applied Toxicological Research and Testing, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods Communities of Practice Webinar on New Approach Methodologies To Assess (Developmental) Neurotoxicity; Notice of Public Webinar; Registration Information

**AGENCY:** National Institutes of Health, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) announces a public webinar “New Approach Methodologies to Assess (Developmental) Neurotoxicity.” The webinar is organized on behalf of ICCVAM by the National Toxicology Program Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods (NICEATM). Interested persons may participate via the web meeting platform. Time will be allotted for questions from the audience. Information about the webinar and registration are available at <https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/commprac-2022>.

**DATES:**

*Webinar:* January 25, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to approximately 11:30 a.m. EST.

*Registration for Webinar:* January 4, 2022, until 11:30 a.m. EST January 25, 2022.

Registration to view the webinar is required.

**ADDRESSES:** Webinar web page: <https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/commprac-2022>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Nicole Kleinstreuer, Acting Director, NICEATM, email: [nicole.kleinstreuer@nih.gov](mailto:nicole.kleinstreuer@nih.gov), telephone: (984) 287-3150.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Background:* ICCVAM promotes the development and validation of toxicity testing methods that protect human health and the environment while replacing, reducing, or refining animal use. ICCVAM also provides guidance to test method developers and facilitates collaborations that promote the development of new test methods. To address these goals, ICCVAM will hold a Communities of Practice webinar on

“New Approach Methodologies to Assess (Developmental) Neurotoxicity.”

The nervous system has unique characteristics and can have different sensitivity to toxic substances compared to other organ systems. Effects of chemicals on the nervous system can be affected by concurrent exposures to other substances. During early life stages, exposure to neuroactive drugs and environmental toxins can interact and/or interfere with developmental processes of the brain, which can in turn result in structural and/or functional alterations. Traditional (developmental) neurotoxicity tests use mammals, but the high cost and low throughput of these tests make them impractical to use for all chemicals of potential concern. In addition, it is challenging to correlate the interpretation of animal data to complex human neurological effects. Therefore, interest is increasing in exploring human cell-based assays, computational systems, and other alternatives to traditional animal tests that can be used to predict chemical effects on the developing and adult nervous system.

“New approach methodologies” (NAMs) refers to any non-animal technology or approach, or combination of these, that can be used to provide information on chemical hazard and risk assessment. This webinar will discuss NAMs that are being considered or developed for assessing potential effects of chemicals on the nervous system. Key insights and ongoing activities will be described in two presentations featuring speakers from U.S. federal research and regulatory agencies. The preliminary agenda and additional information about presentations will be posted at <https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/commprac-2022> as available.

*Webinar and Registration:* This webinar is open to the public with time scheduled for questions by participants following each presentation. Registration for the webinar is required and will be open from January 4, 2022, through 11:30 a.m. EST on January 25, 2022. Registration is available at <https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/commprac-2022>. Interested individuals are encouraged to visit this web page to stay abreast of the most current webinar information. Registrants will receive instructions on how to access and participate in the webinar in the email confirming their registration.

*Background Information on ICCVAM and NICEATM:* ICCVAM is an interagency committee composed of representatives from 17 federal regulatory and research agencies that require, use, generate, or disseminate