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Dated: August 26, 1997.

By Direction of the Secretary-Designate.

**Heyward Bannister,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-23754 Filed 9-8-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Research and Development Cooperative Studies Evaluation Committee Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) as amended, by section 5(c) of Public Law 94-409, that a meeting of the Research and Development Cooperative Studies Evaluation Committee will be held at the Marriott Residence Inn, 550 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202, October 8-9, 1997. The session on October 8 is scheduled to begin at 7:30

a.m. and end at 5:15 p.m. and on October 9 from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be for the purpose of reviewing one new protocol for multi-hospital clinical trial on prophylaxis of medical patients for thromboembolism and the progress of five on-going cooperative studies on treatment of alcoholic liver fibrosis, betablocker for heart failure, cancer intervention versus observation trial, treatment of unstable angina and evaluation of geriatric cares.

The Committee advises the Chief Research and Development Officer through the Chief of the Cooperative Studies Program on the relevance and feasibility of the studies, the adequacy of the protocols, and the scientific validity and propriety of technical details, including protection of human subjects.

The meeting will be open to the public from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. on both days to discuss the general status of the program. Those who plan to attend should contact Dr. Ping Huang, Coordinator, Medical Research Service Cooperative Studies Evaluation Committee, Department of Veterans

Affairs, Washington, DC, (202-273-8295), prior to October 3, 1997.

The meeting will be closed from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on October 8, 1997, and from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., on October 9, 1997, for consideration of specific proposals in accordance with provisions set forth in section 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, as amended by section 5(c) of Public Law 94-409, and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6). During this portion of the meeting, discussions and recommendations will deal with qualifications of personnel conducting the studies, staff and consultant critiques of research protocols, and similar documents, and the medical records of patients who are study subjects, the disclosures of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

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**Heyward Bannister,**

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