to promising new therapies, assist in meeting the National Cancer Institute’s clinical trial goals, and arrival at conclusions regarding the safety and efficacy of emerging therapies in the treatment of cancer. The January 24, 1996, notice anticipated the possibility of extending the demonstration. The NCI trials program is the principal means by which the oncology community has developed clinical evidence for the efficacy of various treatment approaches in cancer therapy. Participating institutions include NCI’s network of comprehensive and clinical cancer centers, university and community hospitals and practices, and military treatment facilities. Despite this extensive network and includes the nation’s premier medical centers, cure rates for most types of cancer remain disappointing, highlighting the significant effort still required for improvement. The principal means by which advances in therapy will be realized is through application of research to victims of cancer. In support of NCI’s efforts to further the science of cancer treatment, the Department expanded its breast cancer demonstration to include all NCI-sponsored phase II and phase III clinical trials. This expanded demonstration will enhance current NCI efforts to determine safety and efficacy of promising cancer therapies by expanding the patient population available for entry into clinical trials and stabilizing the referral base for these clinical activities. While this demonstration provides an exception to current CHAMPUS benefit limitations, the Department hypothesizes that this increased access to innovative cancer therapies will occur at a cost comparable to that which the Department has experienced in paying for conventional therapies under the standard CHAMPUS program. Results of this demonstration will provide a framework for determining the scope of DoD’s continued participation in the NCI’s research efforts.


L.M. Bynum,
Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William J. Carr, (703) 697-8444.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 8, 1997 (62 FR 16694), the Department of Defense published 32 CFR part 216 as an interim rule. This rule and the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act of 1997 require the Department of Defense semi-annually to publish a list of the institutions of higher education ineligible for Federal funds due to a policy or practice that either prohibits, or in effect prevents, the Secretary of Defense from obtaining, for military recruiting purposes, entry to campuses, access to students on campuses, access to directory information on students or that has an anti-ROTC policy. On October 6, 1997 (62 FR 52091), the Department of Defense published a list of the institutions of higher education ineligible for Federal Funding; this listing updates and supersedes that listing.


L.M. Bynum,
Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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