

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with section 1868(a) of the Social Security Act, this notice requests nominations from medical organizations representing physicians for individuals to serve on the Practicing Physicians Advisory Council. There will be four vacancies on February 28, 1998.

**DATES:** Nominations from medical organizations representing physicians will be considered if we receive them at the appropriate address, provided below, no later than 5 p.m. on January 30, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail or deliver nominations for membership to the following address: Health Care Financing Administration, Center for Health Plans and Providers, Office of Professional Relations, Attention: Jeffrey Kang, M.D., Executive Director, Practicing Physicians Advisory Council, Room 435-H, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20201.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jeffrey Kang, M.D., Executive Director, Practicing Physicians Advisory Council, (202) 690-7418.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 4112 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-508), enacted on November 5, 1990, added a new section 1868 to the Social Security Act (the Act), which established the Practicing Physicians Advisory Council (the Council). The Council advises the Secretary (the Secretary) of the Department of Health and Human Services on proposed regulations and manual issuances related to physicians' services. An advisory committee created by the Congress, such as this one, is subject to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2).

Section 1868(a) of the Act requires that the Council consist of 15 physicians, each of whom must have submitted at least 250 claims for physicians' services under Medicare in the previous year. At least 11 Council members must be physicians as defined in section 1861(r)(1) of the Act; that is, State-licensed physicians of medicine or osteopathy. The other four Council members may include dentists, podiatrists, optometrists, and chiropractors. The Council must include both participating and nonparticipating physicians, as well as physicians practicing in rural and under served urban areas. In addition, section 1868(a) of the Act provides that nominations to the Secretary for Council membership must be made by medical organizations representing physicians.

This notice is an invitation to all organizations representing physicians to submit nominees for membership on the Council. Current members whose terms expire in 1998 will be considered for reappointment, if renominated. The Secretary will appoint new members to the Council from among those candidates determined to have the expertise required to meet specific agency needs and in a manner to ensure appropriate balance of membership.

Each nomination must state that the nominee has expressed a willingness to serve as a Council member and must be accompanied by a short resume or description of the nominee's experience. To permit evaluation of possible sources of conflict of interest, potential candidates will be asked to provide detailed information concerning financial holdings, consultant positions, research grants, and contracts.

Section 1868(b) of the Act provides that the Council meet once each calendar quarter, as requested by the Secretary, to discuss proposed changes in regulations and manual issuances that relate to physicians services. Council members are expected to participate in all meetings.

Section 1868(c) of the Act provides for payment of expenses and a per diem allowance for Council members at a rate equal to payment provided members of other advisory committees. In addition to making these payments the Department of Human Services provides management and support services to the Council.

(Section 1868 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ee); 5 U.S.C. App.2)

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: December 23, 1997.

**Nancy-Ann Min DeParle,**

*Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration.*

[FR Doc. 97-33939 Filed 12-29-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Cancer Institute; Notice of Meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Director

Pursuant to Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given of a telephone conference call meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Director, National Cancer Institute, January 12, 1998, at the National Institutes of Health, Building

31, Room 11A10, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20892.

The entire meeting will be open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Attendance by the public is limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the Contact Person listed below.

*Name of Committee:* Advisory Committee to the Director.

*Contact Person:* Susan J. Waldrop, Executive Secretary, Federal Building, Room 312, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 496-1458.

*Date of Meeting:* January 12, 1998.

*Place of Meeting:* National Institutes of Health, Building 31, Room 11A10, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20892.

*Open:* 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

*Agenda:* To update the Committee on the progress of the NCI working groups.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the urgent need to meet timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM NUMBERS: 93.393, Cancer Cause and Prevention Research; 93.394, Cancer Detection and Diagnosis Research; 93.395, Cancer Treatment Research; 93.396, Cancer Biology Research; 93.397, Cancer Centers Support; 93.398, Cancer Research Manpower; 93.399, Cancer Control.)

Dated: December 22, 1997.

**LaVeen Ponds,**

*Acting Committee Management Officer, NIH.*

[FR Doc. 97-33943 Filed 12-29-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Center for Research Resources; Notice of Meetings

Pursuant to Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given of the meetings of the National Center for Research Resources Initial Review Group and the Scientific and Technical Review Board on Biomedical and Behavioral Research Facilities, National Center for Research Resources (NCRR), for February 1998. These meetings will be open to the public as indicated below to discuss program planning; program accomplishments; administrative matters such as previous meeting minutes; the report of the Director, NCRR; review of budget and legislative updates; and special reports or other issues relating to committee business. Attendance by the public will be limited to space available.

These meetings will be closed to the public as indicated below in accordance