

(OMB) the following proposal for the collection of information. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) the necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

Type of Information Collection Request: New Collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Medicare Physician Communication Survey; *Form No.:* HCFA-R-225; *Use:* This is a request for clearance for a survey of physicians to determine their information needs regarding Medicare and Medicaid issues. The survey will provide information for HCFA's Office of Strategic Planning, Research & Evaluation Group, Division of Payment Research to support a communication strategy for physicians treating Medicare beneficiaries. It is part of a larger effort of market research aimed at understanding the communication needs of HCFA providers and other partners. This information will answer two questions on physicians' preferences to help guide HCFA's communication strategy: (1) what information physicians want from HCFA, and (2) how physicians want to receive such information. This survey is designed to provide data that will help answer and prioritize these questions. *Frequency:* One time; *Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit; *Number of Respondents:* 650; *Total Annual Responses:* 650; *Total Annual Hours:* 217.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, E-mail your request, including your address and phone number, to Paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 30 days of this notice directly to the OMB Desk Officer designated at the following address:

OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, Attention: Allison Eydt, New

Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Dated: March 17, 1998.

John P. Burke III,

HCFA Reports Clearance Officer, HCFA, Office of Information Services, Information Technology Investment Management Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.

[FR Doc. 98-7857 Filed 3-25-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Proposed Data Collection; Comment Request; American Stop Smoking Intervention Study for Cancer Prevention (ASSIST) Final Evaluation: "Tobacco Use Supplement to the 1998-1999 Current Population Survey"

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects to be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval.

PROPOSED COLLECTION: *Title:* American Stop Smoking Intervention Study for Cancer Prevention (ASSIST) Final Evaluation: "Tobacco Use Supplement to the 1998-1999 Current Population Survey". *Type of Information Request:* OMB #0925-0368, Exp. 3/31/97, REINSTATEMENT, with change. *Need and Use of Information Collection:* The "Tobacco Use" supplement to the Current Population Survey conducted by the Bureau of the Census will collect data from the civilian non-institutionalized population on tobacco use and smoking prevalence, smoking intervention dissemination of workplace smoking policies and cessation programs as well as medical and dental advice to stop smoking, and changes in smoking norms and attitudes. The data will be used by the National Cancer Institute to evaluate the effectiveness of the American Stop Smoking Intervention Study for Cancer Prevention (ASSIST), a large scale 17 state demonstration project. This survey will also provide valuable information to Government agencies and to the general public necessary for tobacco control research. The survey will allow

state specific estimates to be made. Data will be collected in September 1998, January 1999 and May 1999 from approximately 255,000 respondents. *Frequency of Response:* One-time study. *Affected Public:* Individuals or households. *Type of Respondents:* Persons 15 yrs. of age or older. The annual reporting burden is as follows: *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 170,000; *Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1; *Average Burden Hours per Response:* .1169; and *Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours Requested:* 19,873. The annualized cost to respondents is estimated at: \$198,727. There are no Operating or Maintenance Costs to report.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS: Written comments and/or suggestions from the public and affected agencies are invited on one or more of the following points: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, contact Anne Hartman, Health Statistician, National Cancer Institute, Executive Plaza North, Room 313, Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7344, or call non-toll free number (301) 496-4970, or FAX your request to (301) 435-3710, or E-mail your request, including your address, to ah42t@nih.gov or Anne_Hartman@nih.gov.

COMMENTS DUE DATE: Comments regarding this information collection are best assured of having their full effect if received within 60 days of the date of this publication.

Dated: March 17, 1998.

Reesa Nichols,

OMB Project Clearance Liaison.

[FR Doc. 98-7872 Filed 3-25-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M