

(Section 4012 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, Public Law 105-33 (42 U.S.C.1395w-23 note) and section 10(a) of Public Law 92-463 (5 U.S.C. App.2, section 10(a))

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.773, Medicare—Hospital Insurance; and Program No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: March 8, 1999.

Nancy-Ann Min DeParle,

Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration.

[FR Doc. 99-6116 Filed 3-10-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration [HCFA-1101-N]

Medicare Program; Meetings of the Competitive Pricing Demonstration Area Advisory Committee, Maricopa County, AZ

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), HHS.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, this notice announces three meetings of the Area Advisory Committee for the Maricopa County Competitive Pricing Demonstration.

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA) requires the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (the Secretary) to establish a demonstration project under which payments to Medicare+Choice organizations in designated areas are determined in accordance with a competitive pricing methodology. The BBA requires the Secretary to appoint an Area Advisory Committee (AAC) in the designated area to advise on the marketing and pricing of the plan and other factors. AAC meetings are open to the public.

DATES: The meetings are scheduled for March 31, 1999, from 9 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., m.s.t.; April 20, 1999, from 9 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., m.s.t.; and May 18, 1999, from 9 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., m.s.t.

ADDRESSES: The three meetings on March 31, 1999, April 20, 1999, and May 18, 1999, will be held at the YWCA of the USA, Leadership Development Conference Center, 9440 North 25th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85021, (602) 944-0569.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth C. Abbott, Regional Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration, 75 Hawthorne Street,

4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105, (415) 744-3501.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Section 4011 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA) requires the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (the Secretary) to establish a demonstration project under which payments to Medicare+Choice organizations in designated areas are determined in accordance with a competitive pricing methodology.

Section 4012(a) of the BBA requires the Secretary to appoint a Competitive Pricing Advisory Committee to make recommendations concerning the designation of areas for the project and appropriate research designs for implementation. Once an area is designated as a demonstration site, section 4012(b) of the BBA requires the Secretary to appoint an Area Advisory Committee (AAC) to advise on the marketing and pricing of the plan in the area and other factors.

This notice announces three meetings of the Maricopa County AAC. The meetings will be held on March 31, 1999, April 20, 1999, and May 18, 1999, from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., m.s.t., at the YWCA of the USA, Leadership Development Conference Center, 9440 North 25th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85021.

The Maricopa County AAC will meet three times for the purpose of advising the Secretary on how the project will be implemented. The AAC is currently being assembled and will be composed of representatives of health plans, providers, and Medicare beneficiaries in the area. In accordance with section 4012(b) of the BBA, the AAC will exist for the duration of the project in the area, expected to be 5 years from the January 1, 2000, start date.

The Maricopa County AAC will hold its first meeting on March 31, 1999. The agenda will include an introduction of the AAC members, the presentation of the AAC mission, a discussion of background materials relating to the demonstration design, and a discussion of the process that will be utilized to provide advice on implementation of the Medicare Competitive Pricing Demonstration.

The second meeting on April 20, 1999, will include the discussion of and possible decisions on risk adjustment and the bidding process, the various options on the government contribution or payment, the standard benefit package, and any other outstanding issues.

The third meeting on May 18, 1999, will summarize the decisions made in earlier meetings and will continue the discussions and make final decisions on

any outstanding issues from the previous meetings.

Individuals or organizations that wish to make 5-minute oral presentations on the agenda issues mentioned in the three preceding paragraphs should contact the San Francisco Regional Administrator by 12 noon for each of the following days:

March 19, 1999, for the first meeting.

April 9, 1999, for the second meeting.

May 7, 1999, for the third meeting.

Anyone who is not scheduled to speak may submit written comments to the San Francisco Regional Administrator by:

March 24, 1999, for the first meeting.

April 13, 1999, for the second meeting.

May 11, 1999, for the third meeting.

These meetings are open to the public, but attendance is limited to space available.

Authority: Section 4012 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, Public Law 105-33 (42 U.S.C.1395w-23 note) and section 10(a) of Public Law 92-463 (5 U.S.C. App.2, Section 10(a))

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.773, Medicare—Hospital Insurance; and Program No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: March 8, 1999.

Nancy-Ann Min DeParle,

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), 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 Child Health and Human Development Initial