

Government; *Number of Respondents:* 53; *Total Annual Responses:* 212; *Total Annual Hours:* 2,120.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access HCFA's Web Site address at <http://www.hcfa.gov/regs/prdact95.htm>, or E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and HCFA document identifier, 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: OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, Attention: Allison Eydt, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Dated: July 22, 1999.

John P. Burke III,

HCFA Reports Clearance Officer, HCFA Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

[Document Identifier: HCFA-R-0282]

Emergency Clearance: Public Information Collection Requirements Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this 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.

We are, however, requesting an emergency review of the information collections referenced below. In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we have submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the following requirements for emergency review. We are requesting an emergency review because the collection of this information is needed before the expiration of the normal time limits under OMB's regulations at 5 CFR, Part 1320. This is necessary to ensure compliance with § 1852(c) of the Social Security Act and §§ 422.64, 422.111 and 422.560-422.622 of the CFR. We cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures because all beneficiaries who are eligible to elect M+C plans have had a legal right to receive appeals and grievance information from M+C organizations as of 1/1/99. If the agency does not provide formal guidance to M+C organizations, then it will be difficult for M+C organizations to operationalize the statutory and regulatory requirements. Furthermore, beneficiaries may be harmed by receiving inconsistent information across M+C organizations.

HCFA is requesting OMB review and approval of this collection by August 10, 1999, with a 180-day approval period. Written comments and recommendations will be accepted from the public if received by the individuals designated below by August 9, 1999. During this 180-day period, we will publish a separate **Federal Register** notice announcing the initiation of an extensive 60-day agency review and public comment period on these requirements. We will submit the requirements for OMB review and an extension of this emergency approval.

Type of Information Request: New collection.

Title of Information Collection: Medicare + Choice (M+C) Organization Appeals and Grievance Data Collection and Reporting Requirements and Supporting Regulations in 42 CFR 422.64, 422.111, and 422.560-422.622.

HCFA Form Number: HCFA-R-0282 (OMB approval #: 0938-NEW).

Use: These information collection pertains to the aggregate number and disposition of grievances and appeals by M+C organizations. Both the Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997 and the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993 establish a need for HCFA to set and monitor performance standards in the area of appeals. The purpose is to hold M+C organizations

accountable to regulators and consumers, as well as promote informed choice.

Frequency: Semi-annually.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit and Individuals or Households.

Number of Respondents: 331.

Total Annual Responses: 662.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 662.

We have submitted a copy of this notice to OMB for its review of these information collections. A notice will be published in the **Federal Register** when approval is obtained.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, and HCFA form number(s) referenced above, to Paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326.

Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden or any other aspect of these collections of information requirements. However, as noted above, comments on these information collection and recordkeeping requirements must be mailed and/or faxed to the designees referenced below by August 9, 1999:

Health Care Financing Administration,
Office of Information Services,
Security and Standards Group,
Division of HCFA Enterprise
Standards, Room N2-14-26, 7500
Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD
21244-1850. Fax Number: (410) 786-
0262 Attn: Louis Blank HCFA-R-
0282

and
Office of Information and Regulatory
Affairs, Office of Management and
Budget, Room 10235, New Executive
Office Building, Washington, DC
20503, Fax Number: (202) 395-6974
or (202) 395-5167. Attn: Allison
Herron Eydt, HCFA Desk Officer.

Dated: July 22, 1999.

John P. Burke III,

HCFA Reports Clearance Officer, HCFA, Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Proposed Collection: Comment Request; Contraception and Infertility Research Loan Repayment Program

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of