

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.

Type of Information Collection Request: Revision of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Skilled Nursing Facility Cost Report and Supporting Regulations in 42 CFR 413.20 and 413.24; *Form No.:* HCFA-2540 (OMB 0938-0463); *Use:* Form HCFA-2540-96 is the form used by skilled nursing facilities participating in the Medicare program. This form reports the health care costs used to determine the amount of reimbursable costs for services rendered to Medicare beneficiaries; *Frequency:* Annually; *Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; *Number of Respondents:* 15,700; *Total Annual Responses:* 15,706; *Total Annual Hours:* 2,943,200.

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 60 days of this notice directly to the HCFA Paperwork Clearance Officer designated at the following address: HCFA, Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards, Attention: Julie Brown, Room N2-14-26, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

Dated: May 25, 2000.

John P. Burke III,

Reports Clearance Officer, 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-0280]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

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.

Type of Information Request: Extension of a currently approved collection; *Type of Information Collection:* Medigap Compare; *HCFA Form Number:* HCFA-R-0280 (OMB approval #:0938-0767); *Use:* HCFA collects plan-specific Medigap data, including but not limited to premiums charged and additional benefits offered, from each insurer offering Medigap plans. The data collection occurs electronically. The data are provided on www.medicare.gov to assist beneficiaries in obtaining accurate information on all their health care coverage options; *Frequency:* Annually, and semi-annually if needed; *Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit, Federal Government, State, Local, or Tribal Government, Not-for-profit institutions; *Number of Respondents:* 300; *Total annual Responses:* 450; *Total Annual Burden Hours:* 75.

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: May 25, 2000.

John P. Burke III,

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

[FR Doc. 00-14067 Filed 6-5-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

[Document Identifier: HCFA-10006]

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 section 204 of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Act of 1999. We cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures because the law becomes effective on October 2, 2000, at which time we must award grants. Prior to that time, we must publish a notice in the **Federal Register** soliciting applications and have sufficient time to review all applications adequately. Delay of this approval will also result in public harm, as the awarding of grants will be delayed, thus delaying the ability to prevent physically and mentally impaired workers from becoming disabled because of not being eligible for Medicaid.

HCFA is requesting OMB review and approval of this collection by June 13, 2000, with a 180-day approval period. Written comments and recommendations will be accepted from the public if received by the individuals designated below by June 12, 2000. 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:* TWWIIA Demonstration to Maintain Independence and Employment; *HCFA Form Number:* HCFA-10006 (OMB approval #: 0938-NEW); *Use:* Section 204 of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Act provides for the establishment of grants for states that develop and implement demonstration programs designed to support working people with physical or mental impairments that without medical assistance will result in disability. State agencies will be applying for these grants; *Frequency:* Annually; *Affected Public:* State, local or tribal government; *Number of Respondents:* 56; *Total Annual Responses:* 56; *Total Annual Burden Hours:* 5,600.

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, 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.

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 June 12, 2000.

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: Julie Brown HCFA-10006
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
Attn.: Allison Herron Eydt, HCFA
Desk Officer.

Dated: May 31, 2000.

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
[HCFA-1138-N]**

**Medicare Program; Town Hall Meeting
To Discuss the Documentation
Guidelines for Evaluation and
Management Services—June 22, 2000**

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

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a town hall meeting to discuss the current status of our work on revising the documentation guidelines for evaluation and management (E/M) services. The

documentation guidelines provide the health care community with information regarding the proper use of E/M Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes. This meeting will present the results of our efforts to simplify the guidelines, reduce the burden on physicians, and foster consistent and fair medical review.

Since receiving recommendations for revising the existing guidelines from the American Medical Association (AMA) CPT Editorial Panel in June 1999, we have performed a technical assessment of those recommendations, reviewed other proposals for revising the guidelines, and started to plan a study of proposed revisions to the documentation guidelines. The purpose of this meeting is to inform the public about the current status of these activities and to reaffirm our commitment to work with physicians to improve the service they receive from the Medicare program. The meeting is open to the public, but attendance is limited to the space available.

DATES: *The Meeting:* June 22, 2000 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., E.D.T.

Registration: Persons wishing to attend the meeting must register by June 21, 2000.

Special Accommodations: Persons attending the meeting who are hearing impaired and require sign language interpretation, or have a condition that requires other special assistance or accommodations, should notify Ms. Martha Dixon by June 14, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the auditorium of the Health Care Financing Administration, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Bernice Harper, (202) 690-7899, for general questions about the meeting. Ms. Martha Dixon, (202) 358-1420, for questions regarding registration or special accommodations.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Intent of the Meeting

The intent of this meeting is to provide an update to the public on documentation guidelines for evaluation and management services Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes. Although there will be a question and answer period, there will be no time scheduled for public presentations by the attendees.

Agenda Topics

The following topics will be addressed by members of our staff at the meeting: