

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[110700A]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: At-Sea Scale Certification Program.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Commerce has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Form Number(s): None.

OMB Approval Number: 0648-0330.

Type of Request: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 3,508.

Number of Respondents: 49.

Average Hours Per Response: 45 minutes for a daily scale test, 6 minutes per day to retain printed scale output, 6 minutes to request a scale inspection, 6 minutes to attach a scale approval sticker, 6 minutes for an application for authority to inspect scales, 2 hours for a request for an observer station inspection, and 30-190 hours for scale type evaluations.

Needs and Uses: Fishermen on certain Federally-regulated fisheries off Alaska must weigh their catch at sea on approved scales. Vessels must request inspection of scales and observer stations, test their scales daily, and maintain output from the scales. Related information collection requirements are requests from scale manufacturers to have their scale approved, and requests from non-NOAA scale inspectors to have authority to conduct scale inspections.

Affected Public: Business and other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: Daily, annually, and on occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

OMB Desk Officer: David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Madeleine Clayton, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3129, Department of Commerce, Room 6086, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at MClayton@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this

notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: November 3, 2000.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-28952 Filed 11-9-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE: 3510-22 -S

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Office of the Secretary****Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS); Fiscal Year 2001 Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) Updates**

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of DRG revised rates.

SUMMARY: This notice describes the changes made to the TRICARE/CHAMPUS DRG-based payment system in order to conform to changes made to the Medicare Prospective Payment System (PPS).

It also provides the updated fixed loss cost outlier threshold, cost-to-charge ratios and the Internet address for accessing the updated adjusted standardized amounts, DRG relative weights, and beneficiary cost-share per diem rates to be used for FY 2001 under the TRICARE/CHAMPUS DRG-based payment system.

EFFECTIVE DATES: The rates, weights and Medicare PPS changes which affect the TRICARE/CHAMPUS DRG-based payment system contained in this notice are effective for admissions occurring on or after October 1, 2000.

ADDRESSES: TRICARE Management Activity (TMA), Medical Benefits and Reimbursement Systems, 16401 East Centretech Parkway, Aurora, CO 80011-9043. For copies of the **Federal Register** containing this notice, contact the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, (202) 783-3238. The charge for the **Federal Register** is \$1.50 for each issue payable by check or money order to the Superintendent of Documents.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marty Maxey, Medical Benefits and Reimbursement Systems, TMA, telephone (303) 676-3627.

To obtain copies of this document, see the **ADDRESSES** section above. Questions regarding payment of specific claims under the TRICARE/CHAMPUS DRG-based payment system should be addressed to the appropriate contractor.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The final rule published on September 1, 1987 (52 FR 32992) set forth the basic procedures used under the CHAMPUS DRG-based payment system. This was subsequently amended by final rules published August 31, 1988 (53 FR 33461), October 21, 1988 (53 FR 41331), December 16, 1988 (53 FR 50515), May 30, 1990 (55 FR 21863), October 22, 1990 (55 FR 42560), and September 10, 1998 (63 FR 48439).

An explicit tenet of these final rules, and one based on the statute authorizing the use of DRGs by TRICARE/CHAMPUS, is that the TRICARE/CHAMPUS DRG-based payment system is modeled on the Medicare PPS, and that, whenever practicable, the TRICARE/CHAMPUS system will follow the same rules that apply to the Medicare PPS. HCFA publishes these changes annually in the **Federal Register** and discusses in detail the impact of the changes.

In addition, this notice updates the rates and weights in accordance with our previous final rules. The actual changes we are making, along with a description of their relationship to the Medicare PPS, are detailed below.

I. Medicare PPS Changes Which Affect the TRICARE/CHAMPUS DRG-Based Payment System

Following is a discussion of the changes the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) has made to the Medicare PPS that affect the TRICARE/CHAMPUS DRG-based payment system.

A. DRG Classifications

Under both the Medicare PPS and the TRICARE/CHAMPUS DRG-based payment system, cases are classified into the appropriate DRG by a Grouper program. The Grouper classifies each case into a DRG on the basis of the diagnosis and procedure codes and demographic information (that is, sex, age, and discharge status). The Grouper used for the TRICARE/CHAMPUS DRG-based payment system is the same as the current Medicare Grouper with two modifications. The TRICARE/CHAMPUS system has replaced Medicare DRG 435 with two age-based DRGs (900 and 901), and has implemented thirty-four (34) neonatal DRGs in place of Medicare DRGs 385 through 390. For admissions occurring on or after October 1, 1995, the CHAMPUS grouper hierarchy logic was changed so the age split (age <29 days) and assignments to MDC 15 occur before assignment of the PreMDC DRGs. This resulted in all neonate tracheostomies and organ transplants to be grouped to MDC 15 and not to DRGs