

Basic Nomination Requirements

Each nomination should include a current curriculum vitae and should state that the nominee is willing to serve as a member of the Task Force. AHRQ will ask persons being considered for membership to provide detailed information concerning such matters as financial holdings, consultancies, and research grants or contracts, to permit evaluation of possibly significant conflicts of interest. It is anticipated that approximately 8–10 individuals will be invited to serve on the Task Force. (See other important nomination requirements below under Nomination Selection.)

Additional Information about the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force may be obtained by contacting: <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/uspstfix.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under Title IX of the Public Health Service Act, AHRQ is charged with enhancing the quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of health care services and access to such services. AHRQ accomplishes these goals through scientific research and promotion of improvements in clinical practice, including prevention of diseases and other health conditions, and improvements in the organization, financing, and delivery of health care services (42 U.S.C. 299–299c–7 as amended by Public Law 106–129 (1999)).

The Task Force is an independent expert panel, first established in 1984 under the auspices of the U.S. Public Health Service. Currently, under AHRQ's authorizing legislation noted above, the Director of AHRQ is responsible for convening the USPSTF to be composed of individuals with appropriate expertise. The mission of the Task Force is to rigorously evaluate the effectiveness of clinical preventive services and to formulate recommendations for primary care clinicians regarding the appropriate content of periodic health examinations. The first Task Force concluded its work in 1989 with the publication of the Guide to Clinical Preventive Services (the Guide). A second Task Force, appointed in 1990, concluded its work with the release of the second edition of the Guide in December 1995. Programmatic responsibility for the Task Force was transferred to AHRQ in 1995. The 1996 edition of the Guide, evaluating common screening tests, counseling interventions, immunizations and chemoprophylaxis, is available on the Internet ([http://](http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/uspstfix.htm)

www.ahrq.gov/clinic/uspstfix.htm) and through the U.S. Government Printing Office, (202) 512–1800 (refer to stock # 017–001–00525–8). In 1998, members of the third Task Force were appointed for five-year terms. The third Task Force has released its recommendations incrementally. These recommendations can be found at <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/uspstfix.htm>.

Nomination Selection

Nominations for the Task Force will be selected on the basis of: (1) Clinical expertise in the primary health care of children and/or adults; (2) experience in critical evaluation of research and evidence-based methods; (3) expertise in disease prevention and health promotion; (4) expertise in counseling and behavioral interventions, (5) national leadership within their field of expertise; (6) ability to work collaboratively with peers; and, (7) no substantial conflicts of interest that would impair the scientific integrity of the work of the Task Force. Some Task Force members without primary health care clinical experience may be selected based on their expertise in methodological issues such as medical decision making, clinical epidemiology, and health economics.

Dated: July 9, 2002.

Carolyn M. Clancy,
Acting Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

[Document Identifier: CMS–317]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, HHS.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) (formerly known as 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: Extension of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* State Medicaid Eligibility Quality Control (MEQC) Sampling Plan and Supporting Regulations in 42 CFR 431.800–431.865; *Form No.:* CMS–317 (OMB# 0938–0146); *Use:* The State MEQC sampling plan is necessary for CMS to monitor the States' operation of the MEQC system for States performing the traditional sampling process. The sampling plan includes all data involved in the States' sample selection process—population sizes and sample frame lists, sample sizes, sample selection procedures, and claim collection procedures; *Frequency:* Semi-annually; *Affected Public:* State, Local, or Tribal Government; *Number of Respondents:* 55; *Total Annual Responses:* 110; *Total Annual Hours:* 2,640. To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access CMS'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 CMS 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 CMS Paperwork Clearance Officer designated at the following address: CMS, Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of CMS Enterprise Standards, Attention: Julie Brown CMS–317, Room N2–14–26, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244–1850.

Dated: July 5, 2002.

Julie Brown,

Acting Paperwork Reduction Act Team Leader, CMS Reports Clearance Officer, CMS Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of CMS Enterprise Standards.

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