

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**
**Disease, Disability, and Injury Prevention and Control Special Emphasis Panel: Occupational Safety and Health Research, Collaborative Program for the Identification and Prevention of Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorders, Request for Application OH-02-010**

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following meeting:

*Name:* Disease, Disability, and Injury Prevention and Control Special Emphasis Panel: Occupational Safety and Health Research, Collaborative Program for the Identification and Prevention of Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorders, RFA OH-02-010.

*Times and Dates:* 8 a.m.–8:30 a.m., August 20, 2002 (Open) 8:30 p.m.–5 p.m., August 20, 2002 (Closed)

*Place:* Harbor Court Hotel, 550 Light Street, Baltimore, MD 21202, 410/234-0550

*Status:* Portions of the meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with provisions set forth in section 552b(c) (4) and (6), Title 5 U.S.C., and the Determination of the Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, CDC, pursuant to Public Law 92-463.

*Matters to be Discussed:* The meeting will include the review, discussion, and evaluation of applications received in response to RFA OH-02-010.

*Contact Person for More Information:* Laurie Piacitelli, Scientific Review Administrator, Office of Extramural Programs, Office of the Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, CDC, Cincinnati, OH, 513/841-4567.

The Director, Management Analysis and Services Office has been delegated the authority to sign **Federal Register** notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities, for both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Dated: July 25, 2002.

**John Burckhardt,**

*Acting Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).*

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
**Centers For Medicare & Medicaid Services**
**Notice of Hearing; Reconsideration of Disapproval of Connecticut Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) 01-011B**

**AGENCY:** Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of Hearing.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces an administrative hearing on August 30, 2002, at 10 a.m., at the JFK Federal Building; Room 2250, Boston, Massachusetts 02203-0003, to reconsider our decision to disapprove Connecticut SPA 01-011B.

*Closing Date:* Requests to participate in the hearing as a party must be received by the presiding officer by August 16, 2002.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kathleen Scully-Hayes, Presiding Officer, CMS, C1-09-13, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244, Telephone: (410)-786-2055.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice announces an administrative hearing to reconsider our decision to disapprove Connecticut SPA 01-011B.

Section 1116 of the Social Security Act (the Act) and 42 CFR part 430 establish Department procedures that provide an administrative hearing for reconsideration of a disapproval of a State plan or plan amendment. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) is required to publish a copy of the notice to a State Medicaid agency that informs the agency of the time and place of the hearing and the issues to be considered. If we subsequently notify the agency of additional issues that will be considered at the hearing, we will also publish that notice.

Any individual or group that wants to participate in the hearing as a party must petition the presiding officer within 15 days after publication of this notice, in accordance with the requirements contained at 42 CFR 430.76(b)(2). Any interested person or organization that wants to participate as amicus curiae must petition the presiding officer before the hearing begins in accordance with the requirements contained at 42 CFR 430.76(c). If the hearing is later rescheduled, the presiding officer will notify all participants.

The issue is whether SPA 01-011B complies with requirements for publication of public notice and the effective date. Connecticut submitted SPA 01-011B on September 21, 2001.

The amendment would provide an update factor for inpatient hospital rates as of July 1, 2001. The State indicated in its response dated February 22, 2002, that it published a public notice on September 26, 2001. Under section 1902(a)(13)(A) of the Act, payment rates for hospital services must be established through a public process which includes notice and a reasonable opportunity for review and comment. Federal regulations at 42 CFR 447.205 state that the public notice must be published before the proposed effective date of any significant change in payment rates. The CMS interprets this advance public notice requirement to mean the notice must be published at least one calendar day prior to the proposed effective date.

Therefore, the earliest approvable effective date for this amendment is September 27, 2001. Because the State requested an effective date of July 1, 2001, CMS was unable to approve the requested amendment.

The notice to Connecticut announcing an administrative hearing to reconsider the disapproval of its SPA reads as follows:

Mr. Michael P. Starkowski, Deputy Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services, 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5033.

Dear Mr. Starkowski: I am responding to your request for reconsideration of the decision to disapprove Connecticut State Plan Amendment (SPA) 01-011B.

The issue involves publication of public notice and effective date. Connecticut submitted SPA 01-011B on September 21, 2001. The amendment would provide an update factor for inpatient hospital rates as of July 1, 2001. For the reasons stated below, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) was unable to approve this amendment.

The issue is whether SPA 01-011B complies with requirements for publication of public notice and the effective date. Connecticut submitted SPA 01-011B on September 21, 2001. The amendment would provide an update factor for inpatient hospital rates as of July 1, 2001. The State indicated in its response dated February 22, 2002, that it published a public notice on September 26, 2001. Under section 1902(a)(13)(A), payment rates for hospital services must be established through a public process which includes notice and a reasonable opportunity for review and comment. Federal regulations at 42 CFR 447.205 state that the public notice must be published before the proposed effective date of any significant change in payment rates. The CMS interprets this advance public notice requirement to mean the notice must be published at least one calendar day prior to the proposed effective date. Therefore, the earliest approvable effective date for this amendment is September 27, 2001. Because