

that the current JCAHO LSC survey process will be reviewed when CMS adopts the 2000 edition of the LSC, which was published as a proposed rule on October 26, 2001 (66 FR 54178). The final rule is under development. Insofar as there may be differences between state survey standards and JCAHO standards based on the 2000 LSC, we want to provide both JCAHO and the states with an opportunity to bring their procedures into alignment with the new LSC. If, after reviewing JCAHO's performance under such standards, significant discrepancies continue to occur, we will address the matter at that time.

B. Term of Approval

Based on the review and observations described in section III of this final notice, we have determined that JCAHO's requirements for CAHs meet or exceed our requirements. Therefore, we recognize the JCAHO as a national accreditation organization for CAHs that request participation in the Medicare program, effective November 21, 2002 through November 21, 2008.

V. Collection of Information Requirements

This final notice does not impose any information collection and recordkeeping requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). Consequently, it does not need to be reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the authority of the PRA. The requirements associated with granting and withdrawal of deeming authority to national accreditation organizations, codified in 42 CFR part 488, (Survey, Certification, and Enforcement Procedures) are currently approved by OMB under OMB approval number 0938-0690, with an expiration date of September 30, 2002.

VI. Regulatory Impact Statement

We have examined the impact of this notice as required by Executive Order 12866 (September 1993, Regulatory Planning and Review), the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) (Pub. L. 98-354), section 1102(b) of the Social Security Act, the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-4), and Executive Order 13132.

Executive Order 12866 directs agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, when regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects; distributive impacts; and equity). The RFA requires agencies to analyze options for regulatory relief

for small businesses. For purposes of the RFA, States and individuals are not considered small entities.

Also, section 1102(b) of the Act requires the Secretary to prepare a regulatory impact analysis for any notice that may have a significant impact on the operations of a substantial number of small rural hospitals. Such an analysis must conform to the provisions of section 604 of the RFA. For purposes of section 1102(b) of the Act, we consider a small rural hospital as a hospital that is located outside of a Metropolitan Statistical Area and has fewer than 100 beds.

This final notice recognizes JCAHO as a national accreditation organization for CAHs that request participation in the Medicare program. There are neither significant costs nor savings for the program and administrative budgets of Medicare. Therefore, this notice is not a major rule as defined in Title 5, United States Code, section 804(2) and is not an economically significant rule under Executive Order 12866. We have determined, and the Secretary certifies, that this notice will not result in a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities and will not have a significant effect on the operations of a substantial number of small rural hospitals. Therefore, we are not preparing analyses for either the RFA or section 1102(b) of the Act.

Section 202 of the Unfunded Mandates Act of 1995 also requires that agencies assess anticipated costs and benefits before issuing any rule that may result in expenditure in any 1 year by State, local, or tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$110 million. This notice will not result in an impact of \$110 million on the governments mentioned or on the private sector.

In an effort to better assure the health, safety, and services of beneficiaries in CAHs already certified as well as provide relief to State budgets in this time of tight fiscal restraints, we deem CAHs accredited by JCAHO as meeting our Medicare requirements. Thus, we continue our focus on assuring the health and safety of services by providers and suppliers already certified for participation in a cost-effective manner.

In accordance with the provisions of Executive Order 12866, this notice was not reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget. In accordance with Executive Order 13132, we have determined that this notice will not significantly affect the rights of States, local or tribal governments.

Authority: Section 1865 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395bb).

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.778, Medical Assistance Program; No. 93.773 Medicare—Hospital Insurance Program; and No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplemental Medical Insurance Program).

Dated: August 16, 2002.

Thomas A. Scully,
Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-3098-N]

Medicare Program; Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Medicare Coverage Advisory Committee—September 25, 2002

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

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a public meeting of the Executive Committee (the Committee) of the Medicare Coverage Advisory Committee (MCAC). The Committee provides advice and recommendations to us about clinical issues. The Committee will act upon recommendations from the Medical and Surgical Procedures Panel of the MCAC regarding the use of deep brain stimulation for the treatment of Parkinson's disease. The Committee will also discuss approaches to assessing clinical evidence in diagnosis and treatment of rare diseases.

Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2, section 10(a)(1) and (a)(2)).

DATES: *The Meeting:* September 25, 2002 from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., E.D.T.

Deadline for Presentations and Comments: September 12, 2002, 5 p.m., E.D.T.

Special Accommodations: Persons attending the meeting who are hearing or visually impaired, or have a condition that requires special assistance or accommodations, are asked to notify the Executive Secretary by September 4, 2002 (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

ADDRESSES:

The Meeting: The meeting will be held at the Baltimore Convention Center, Room 321-322, One West Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21201.

Presentations and Comments: Submit formal presentations and written

comments to Janet A. Anderson, Executive Secretary; Office of Clinical Standards and Quality; Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services; 7500 Security Boulevard; Mail Stop C1-09-06; Baltimore, MD 21244.

Website: You may access up-to-date information on this meeting at <http://www.cms.gov/coverage>.

Hotline: You may access up-to-date information on this meeting on the CMS Advisory Committee Information Hotline, 1-877-449-5659 (toll free) or in the Baltimore area (410) 786-9379.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet A. Anderson, Executive Secretary, 410-786-2700.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 14, 1998 and February 7, 2002, we published a notice in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 68780 and 66 FR 9349) to describe the Medicare Coverage Advisory Committee (MCAC), which provides advice and recommendations to us about clinical issues. This notice announces the following September 25, 2002 public meeting of the Executive Committee (the Committee) of the MCAC.

Current Panel Members

Harold C. Sox, M.D.; Daisy Alford-Smith, Ph.D.; Wade Aubry, M.D.; Linda Bergthold, Ph.D.; Ronald M. Davis, M.D.; John H. Ferguson, M.D.; Leslie P. Francis, J.D., Ph.D.; Alan M. Garber, M.D., Ph.D.; Thomas V. Holohan, M.D., M.A.; Michael D. Maves, M.D., M.B.A.; Barbara J. McNeil, M.D., Ph.D.; Robert L. Murray, Ph.D.; Frank J. Papatheofanis, M.D., Ph.D.; Randel E. Richner, M.P.H.

Meeting Topic

The Committee will act on recommendations from the Medical and Surgical Procedures Panel of the MCAC regarding the use of deep brain stimulation for treatment of Parkinson's disease. The Committee will also discuss methods for assessing clinical evidence concerning diagnosis and treatment of diseases that affect a small population of patients.

Procedure and Agenda

This meeting is open to the public. The Committee will hear oral presentations from the public for approximately 90 minutes. The Committee may limit the number and duration of oral presentations to the time available. If you wish to make a formal presentation, you must notify the Executive Secretary named in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice, and submit the following by the *Deadline for Presentations and Comments* date listed in the **DATES** section of this notice: A brief statement

of the general nature of the evidence or arguments you wish to present, and the names and addresses of proposed participants. A written copy of your presentation must be provided to the Executive Secretary before offering your public comments. We will request that you declare at the meeting whether or not you have any financial involvement with manufacturers of any items or services being discussed (or with their competitors).

After the public and CMS presentations, the Committee will deliberate openly on the topic. Interested persons may observe the deliberations, but the Committee will not hear further comments during this time except at the request of the chairperson. The Committee will also allow approximately a 30-minute open public session for any attendee to address issues specific to the topic. At the conclusion of the day, the members will vote, and the Committee will make its recommendation.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. App. 2, section 10(a)(1) and (a)(2).

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program).
Dated: August 13, 2002.

Robert A. Streimer,

Acting Director, Office of Clinical Standards and Quality, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

[FR Doc. 02-21373 Filed 8-22-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-1216-N]

Medicare Program; September 23 and 24, 2002, Meeting of the Practicing Physicians Advisory Council and Request for Nominations

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, this notice announces a meeting of the Practicing Physicians Advisory Council and invites all organizations representing physicians to submit nominees for membership on the Council. There will be several vacancies on the Council as of February 28, 2003. The meetings are open to the public.

Meeting Registration: Persons wishing to attend this meeting must contact the meeting coordinator Diana

Motsiopoulos at dmotsiopoulos@cms.hhs.gov or (410) 786-3379 at least 72 hours in advance to register. Persons who are not registered in advance will not be permitted into the CMS Headquarters and thus will not be able to attend the meeting. Persons attending the meeting will be required to show a photographic identification, preferably a valid driver's license, before entering the building.

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for September 23, 2002 from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. e.s.t. and September 24, 2002 from 8:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. e.s.t.

Nominations: Nominations will be considered if receive at the appropriate address, provided below no later than 5 p.m. e.s.t., September 30, 2002.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at CMS Headquarters' Multipurpose Room, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21224-1750.

Nominations: Mail or deliver nominations to the following address: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Center for Medicare Management, Office of Professional Relations, Attention: Paul Rudolf, M.D. J.D., Executive Director, Practicing Physicians Advisory Council, 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop C4-10-07, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850.

Website: You may access the Internet at <http://www.hcfa.gov/medicare/ppacsite.htm> for additional information and updates on committee activities.

Advisory Committees Information Line: (1-877-449-5659 toll free)/(410-786-9379 local).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Rudolf, M.D., J.D., Executive Director, Practicing Physicians Advisory Council, 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop C4-10-07, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850, (410) 786-3379. News media representatives should contact the CMS Press Office, (202) 690-6145.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (the Secretary) is mandated by section 1868 of the Social Security Act (the Act) to appoint a Practicing Physicians Advisory Council (the Council) based on nominations submitted by medical organizations representing physicians. The Council meets quarterly to discuss certain proposed changes in regulations and carrier manual instructions related to physicians' services, as identified by the Secretary. To the extent feasible and consistent with statutory deadlines, the consultation must occur before publication of the proposed changes. The Council submits an annual report on its recommendations to the Secretary and the Administrator of the Centers for