

of the information to be collected; and (4) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Direct Comments to OMB: Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, should be directed to the: Office of Management and Budget, Office of Regulatory Affairs, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, Attention: Desk Officer for NIH. To request more information on the proposed collection of information contact: Ronald F. Stewart, National Library of Medicine, Building 38, Room 2N07, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20894, or call non-toll free number (301) 496-6491. you may also e-mail your request to: ron_stewart@mail.nlm.nih.gov.

Comments Due Date: Comments regarding this information collection are best assured of having their effect if received within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Dated: March 26, 2003.

Jon G. Retzlaff,

Executive Officer, National Library of Medicine.

[FR Doc. 03-8058 Filed 4-2-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Pretesting of NCI Office of Communications Messages

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects to be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval.

Proposed Collection: Title: Pretesting of NCI Office of Communications Messages.

Type of Information Collection Request: EXTENSION (OMB# 0925-0046, expires 8/31/03).

Need and Use of Information Collection: In order to carry out NCI's legislative mandate to educate and

disseminate information about cancer prevention, detection, diagnosis, and treatment to a wide variety of audiences and organizations (e.g., cancer patients, their families, the general public, health providers, the media, voluntary groups, scientific and medical organizations), the NCI Office of Communications (OC) needs to pretest its communications strategies, concepts, and messages while they are under development. The primary purpose of this pretesting, or formative evaluation, is to ensure that the messages, communication materials, and information services created by OC have the greatest capacity of being received, understood, and accepted by their target audiences. By utilizing appropriate qualitative and quantitative methodologies, OC is able to (1) understand characteristics of the intended target audience—their attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors—and use this information in the development of effective communication tools and strategies; (2) produce or refine messages that have the greatest potential to influence target audience attitudes and behavior in a positive manner; and (3) expend limited program resource dollars wisely and effectively.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; businesses or other for profit; not-for-profit institutions; Federal Government; State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Type of Respondents: Adult cancer patients; members of the public; health care professionals; organizational representatives. The annual reporting burden is as follows:

Estimated Number of Respondents: 13,780;

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1;

Average Burden Hours Per Response: 1458, and

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours Requested: 2,010.

There are no Capital Costs, Operating Cost, and/or Maintenance Costs to report.

Request for Comments: Written comments and/or suggestions from the public and affected agencies are invited on one or more of the following points: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4)

Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, contact Ellen Eisner, Consumer Research Manager, OC Director's Office, NCI, NIH, Building 31, Room 10A03, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20892, or call non-toll-free number (301) 435-7783 or e-mail your request, including your address to: eisnere@mail.nih.gov.

Comments Due Date: Comments regarding this information collection are best assured of having their full effect if received within 60 days of the date of this publication.

Dated: March 24, 2003.

Reesa Nichols,

Project Clearance Liaison, NCI.

[FR Doc. 03-8059 Filed 4-2-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Notice of Meeting; Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) hereby announces a meeting of the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) to be held on May 13, 2003 on the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland.

The Children's Health Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-310), title I, section 104, mandated the establishment of an Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) to coordinate autism research and other efforts within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). In April 2001, Secretary Tommy Thompson delegated the authority to establish the IACC to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) at the NIH has been designated the lead for this activity.

The IACC meeting will be open to the public, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the contact person listed below in advance of the meeting.

Name of Committee: Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee.