Dated: March 24, 2004.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 04–7048 Filed 3–29–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–06–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

TRICARE; Implementation of the TRICARE Home Health Agency Prospective Payment System

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of implementation of Home Health Agency Prospective Payment System.

SUMMARY: This notice is to advise interested parties of the phased-in implementation of the Home Health Agency Prospective Payment System (HHA PPS). Public notification of HHA PPS implementation was required under a previous interim final rule (67 FR 40597) published in the **Federal Register** on June 13, 2002, if TRICARE was unable to effectively and efficiently implement the HHA PPS within the specified statutory effective date of August 12, 2002.

The HHA PPS will be implemented with the start health care delivery date of the following regional groupings of states under each of the TRICARE Next Generation of Contracts (T-Nex); *e.g.,* as of June 1, 2004, home health agency services in the state of Washington will be processed and paid under the HHA PPS as part of the West T-Nex regional contract.

T-Nex region/contractor	States	Start healthcare delivery
North (Health Net Federal Services, Inc.).	Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Virginia (except the Northern Virginia/National Capital Area), North Carolina, Eastern Iowa, Rock Island, IL, Fort Campbell catchment area of Tennessee.	July 1, 2004.
	Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Northern Virginia, West Virginia (portion).	September 1, 2004.
South (Humana Military Healthcare Services).	Oklahoma, Arkansas and major portions of Texas and Louisiana	November 1, 2004.
	Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Eastern Louisiana, South Carolina, Tennessee, small area of Arkansas, New Orleans area.	August 1, 2004.
West (TriWest Healthcare Alliance Corp.).	Washington, Oregon, Northern Idaho	June 1, 2004.
	California, Hawaii, Alaska	July 1, 2004.
	Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, western portion of Texas, Wyoming.	October 1, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Bennett, Medical Benefits and Reimbursement Systems, TRICARE Management Activity, telephone (303) 676–3494.

Dated: March 23, 2004.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison, Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 04–6978 Filed 3–29–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–06–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Availability of Government-Owned Invention; Available for Licensing

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The invention listed below is assigned to the United States Government as represented by the Secretary of the Navy and is available for licensing by the Department of the Navy.

U.S. Patent number 6,615,919 entitled ''Well Pipe Extraction Apparatus.''

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of the patent application cited should be directed to Kurt Buehler, NFESC, Code 423, 1100 23rd Ave, Port Hueneme, CA 93043–4370, and must include the U.S. Patent number.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kurt Buehler, Office of Research and Technology Applications, NFESC, Code 423, 1100 23rd Ave, Port Hueneme, CA 93043–4370, telephone (805) 982–4897.

(Authority: 35 U.S.C. 207, 37 CFR part 404.)

Dated: March 17, 2004.

S.K. Melancon,

Paralegal Specialist, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 04–7004 Filed 3–29–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810–FF–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; Overview Information; National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR)—Small Business Innovative Research Program (SBIR); Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.133S–1.

DATES: Applications Available: March 31, 2004.

Deadline for Notice of Intent to Apply: April 30, 2004.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: June 1, 2004.

Eligible Applicants: Small business concerns as defined by the Small Business Administration (SBA) at the time of the award. This definition is included in the application package.

All technology, science, or engineering firms with strong research capabilities in any of the priority areas listed in this notice are encouraged to participate.

Consultative or other arrangements between these firms and universities or other non-profit organizations are