

apply to participate in the Medicare Hospital Gainsharing Demonstration being implemented by CMS. The Medicare Hospital Gainsharing Demonstration authorized under section 5007 of the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005 was established to test and evaluate methodologies and arrangements between hospitals and physicians designed to govern the utilization of inpatient hospital resources and physician work. The purpose of this demonstration is to improve the quality and efficiency of care provided to Medicare beneficiaries and to develop improved operational and financial hospital performance with the sharing of remuneration payments between hospitals and physicians in six projects, each project consisting of one hospital. Two projects must be rural. Because we received a limited response from rural hospitals to our original solicitation in September 2006, we are re-issuing our solicitation for proposals from rural hospitals only. Rural hospitals that submitted proposals previously are eligible to reapply. The goals and objectives of the demonstration remain unaltered. This demonstration will be limited in scope: we intend to focus on the short-term impacts of gainsharing programs.

DATES: Applications will be considered timely if we receive them on or before 5 p.m., eastern standard time, on September 4, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Mail or deliver applications to the following address:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Attention: Lisa Waters (CMS-5042-N2), Mail Stop: C4-17-27, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244.

Because of staff and resource limitations, we cannot accept applications by facsimile (FAX) transmission or by e-mail.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Waters at (410) 786-6615 or GAINSHARING@cms.hhs.gov. Interested parties can obtain a complete solicitation, application, and supporting information on the following CMS Web site at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/DemoProjectsEvalRpts/downloads/2006_DRA_5007_Medicare_Hospital_Gainsharing_Demonstration.pdf.

Paper copies can be obtained by writing to Lisa Waters at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

Eligible Organizations: CMS is seeking applications from rural inpatient hospitals that receive payment under section 1886(d) of the Social Security Act (the Act), which is the authority for the hospital inpatient

prospective payment system. For purposes of this demonstration, a hospital will be considered rural if it is rural under the inpatient prospective payment system (see 42 CFR 412.64(b)(1)).

For the purpose of this demonstration, section 5007(g)(4) of the DRA provides that hospitals may provide gainsharing payments to physicians (as defined in section 1861(r)(1) or (r)(3) of the Act) and practitioners (as “described in section 1842(e)(18)(C) of the Act”). The latter reference to “section 1842(e)(18)(C)” of the Act, however, clearly is a typographical error, as there is no such section, and it is clear from the context and legislative history that the reference was intended to be to section 1842(b)(18)(C) of the Act. Section 5007(g) of DRA explicitly provides that the reference to physicians who are permitted to participate in the demonstration is deemed to include certain “practitioners.” Conference Report language also specifically refers to the inclusion of practitioners as part of the gainsharing arrangement. Since section 1842(e)(18)(C) of the Act does not exist, and since section 1842(b)(18)(C) of the Act is, with the exception of substituting (b) for (e), identical to that section, and specifically defines practitioners, we believe that section 1842(b)(18)(C) of the Act is the intended reference. We do not believe this typographical error impedes any authority to otherwise implement this demonstration. Furthermore, a comprehensive list of all eligibility requirements can be found in the “Eligible Organizations” section of the solicitation.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 5007 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA) requires the establishment of a qualified gainsharing demonstration program that will test and evaluate methodologies and arrangements between hospitals and physicians designed to govern the utilization of inpatient hospital resources and physician work to improve the quality and efficiency of care provided to beneficiaries and to develop improved operational and financial hospital performance with the sharing of remuneration as specified in the project. It will have a short-term focus given the limited size of the demonstration.

II. Provisions of the Notice

This notice solicits applications to participate in the DRA section 5007 Medicare Hospital Gainsharing

Demonstration that will assist in determining if gainsharing can align incentives between hospitals and physicians to improve the quality and efficiency of care provided to beneficiaries, which will promote improved operational and financial performance of hospitals. The focus of each demonstration will be to link physician incentive payments to improvements in quality and efficiency. Each demonstration will provide measures to ensure that the quality and efficiency of care provided to beneficiaries is monitored and improved.

Overall, we seek demonstration models that result in savings to Medicare. We will assure the demonstration is budget neutral.

III. Collection of Information Requirements

This information collection requirement is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; however, the collection is currently approved under OMB control number 0938-0880 entitled “Medicare Demonstration Waiver Application.”

Authority: Section 5007 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, Pub. L. 109-171. (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.778, Medical Assistance Program; No. 93.773 Medicare—Hospital Insurance Program; and No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: April 4, 2007.

Leslie V. Norwalk,

Acting Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Editorial Note: This document was received at the Office of the Federal Register on June 29, 2007.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose

confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable materials, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine Special Emphasis Panel Tools and Technology to Measure Patient Adherence in CAM Research: Phase II.

Date: July 23, 2007.

Time: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Two Democracy Plaza, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Laurie Friedman Donze, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Office of Scientific Review, National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, NIH, 6707 Democracy Blvd., Suite 401, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-402-1030, donzel@mail.nih.gov.

June 26, 2007.

Anna Snouffer,

Deputy Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 07-3245 Filed 7-3-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Eye Institute; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to public in accordance with the provisions set forth in section 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Eye Institute Special Emphasis Panel; National Eye Institute Review Panel.

Date: July 12, 2007.

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate cooperative agreement applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 5635 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20852 (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Houmam H. Araj, Ph.D., Scientific Review Administrator, Division of Extramural Research, National Eye Institute, NIH, 5635 Fishers Lane, Suite 1300, Bethesda, MD 20892-9602, 301-451-2020, haraj@mail.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: National Eye Institute Special Emphasis Panel; National Eye Institute Training Grantst Ts and Ks.

Date: July 31, 2007.

Time: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Double Tree Hotel Bethesda, 8120 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814.

Contact Person: Samuel Rawlings, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Review Branch, Division of Extramural Research, National Eye Institute, 5635 Fishers Lane, Suite 1300, MSC 9300, Bethesda, MD 20892-9300, 301-451-2020, rawlings@nei.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Eye Institute Special Emphasis Panel; NEI Cooperative Agreement Applications.

Date: August 17, 2007.

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate cooperative agreement applications.

Place: Hyatt Regency Bethesda, One Bethesda Metro Center, 7400 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Contact Person: Anne E. Schaffner, Ph.D., Scientific Review Administrator, Division of Extramural Research, National Eye Institute, 5635 Fishers Lane, Suite 1300, MSC 9300, Bethesda, MD 20892-9300, (301) 451-2020, aes@nei.nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.867, Vision Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS).

Dated: June 26, 2007.

Anna Snouffer,

Deputy Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 07-3238 Filed 7-3-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial

property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Special Emphasis Panel; Review of Ancillary Study Grant Applications.

Date: July 18, 2007.

Time: 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Two Democracy Plaza, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: John F. Connaughton, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Review Branch, DEA, NIDDK, National Institutes of Health, Room 916, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892-5452, (301) 594-7797,

connaughtonj@extra.niddk.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Special Emphasis Panel; Urinary Incontinence Treatment Network Ancillary Study.

Date: July 19, 2007.

Time: 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Two Democracy Plaza, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Michele L. Barnard, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Review Branch, DEA, NIDDK, National Institutes of Health, Room 753, Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892-5452, (301) 594-8898, barnardm@extra.niddk.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Special Emphasis Panel; FAVORIT Trial Biomarkers Ancillary Studies.

Date: July 25, 2007.

Time: 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Two Democracy Plaza, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Lakshmanan Sankaran, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Review Branch DEA, NIDDK, National Institutes of Health, Room 755, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892-5452, (301) 594-7799, ls38oz@nih.gov

Name of Committee: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Special Emphasis Panel; CBT for IBS.

Date: July 26, 2007

Time: 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.