

The opinions and alternatives provided during this meeting will assist us as we evaluate the new medical services and technology applications for FY 2010. In addition, they will help us to evaluate our policy on the IPPS new technology add-on payment process before the publication of the FY 2010 IPPS proposed rule.

II. Meeting Format

As noted in section I. of this notice, we are required to provide for a meeting at which organizations representing hospitals, physicians, manufacturers and any other interested party may present comments, recommendations, and data to the clinical staff of CMS concerning whether the service or technology represents a substantial improvement. This meeting will allow for a discussion of the substantial clinical improvement criteria on each of the FY 2010 new medical services and technology add-on payment applications. Information regarding the applications can be found on our Web site at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/AcuteInpatientPPS/08_newtech.asp#TopOfPage.

The majority of the meeting will be reserved for presentations of comments, recommendations, and data from registered presenters. The time for each presenter's comments will be approximately 10 to 15 minutes and will be based on the number of registered presenters. Presenters will be scheduled to speak in the order in which they register and grouped by new technology applicant. Therefore, individuals who would like to present must register and submit their agenda item(s) to the address specified in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice by the date specified in the **DATES** section of this notice. Comments from participants will be heard after scheduled statements if time permits. Once the agenda is completed, it will be posted on the CMS IPPS Web site at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/AcuteInpatientPPS/08_newtech.asp#TopOfPage.

For presenters or participants unable to come to CMS for the meeting, an open toll-free phone line, (800) 619-2459, is available. Persons who call in will be asked for the conference code by the conference operator. The conference code is "New Tech."

In addition, written comments will be accepted and presented at the meeting if they are received at the address specified in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice by the date specified in the **DATES** section of this notice. Written comments may also be submitted after the meeting for CMS consideration. If the comments are to be considered

before the publication of the proposed rule, the comments must be received at the address specified in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice by the date specified in the **DATES** section of this notice.

III. Registration Instructions

The Division of Acute Care in CMS is coordinating the meeting registration for the Town Hall meeting. While there is no registration fee, individuals must register to attend the Town Hall meeting.

Registration may be completed on-line at the following Web address: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/AcuteInpatientPPS/08_newtech.asp#TopOfPage. Select the link at the bottom of the page "New Technology Town Hall Meeting" to complete the on-line registration. After completing the registration, on-line registrants should print the confirmation page and bring it with them to the meeting.

If you are unable to register on-line, you may register by sending an e-mail to the contacts listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice. Please include your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and fax number. If seating capacity has been reached, you will be notified that the meeting has reached capacity.

IV. Security, Building, and Parking Guidelines

Because this meeting will be located on Federal property, for security reasons, any persons wishing to attend this meeting must register by close of business by the date listed in the **DATES** section of this notice. Please allow sufficient time to go through the security checkpoints. It is suggested that you arrive at 7500 Security Boulevard no later than 1 p.m., e.s.t. so that you will be able to arrive promptly at the meeting by 1:30 p.m., e.s.t.

Security measures include the following:

- Presentation of government-issued photographic identification to the Federal Protective Service or Guard Service personnel.
- Interior and exterior inspection of vehicles (this includes engine and trunk inspection) at the entrance to the grounds. Parking permits and instructions will be issued after the vehicle inspection.
- Passing through a metal detector and inspection of items brought into the building. We note that all items brought to CMS, whether personal or for the purpose of demonstration or to support a demonstration, are subject to

inspection. We cannot assume responsibility for coordinating the receipt, transfer, transport, storage, set-up, safety, or timely arrival of any personal belongings or items used for demonstration or to support a demonstration.

Note: Individuals who are not registered in advance will not be permitted to enter the building and will be unable to attend the meeting. The public may not enter the building earlier than 45 minutes prior to the convening of the meeting.

All visitors must be escorted in areas other than the lower and first floor levels in the Central Building. Seating capacity is limited to the first 250 registrants.

Authority: Section 503 of Public Law 108-173.

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

Dated: November 13, 2008.

Kerry Weems,

Acting Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

[FR Doc. E8-28180 Filed 11-26-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-7012-N]

Medicare Program; Announcement of Meeting of the Advisory Panel on Medicare Education, January 13, 2009

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

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, this notice announces a meeting of Advisory Panel on Medicare Education (the Panel). The Panel advises and makes recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services on the effectiveness of consumer education strategies concerning the Medicare program. This meeting is open to the public.

DATES: *Meeting Date:* January 13, 2009 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., e.s.t.

Deadline for Meeting Registration, Presentations and Comments: January 5, 2009, 12 noon, e.s.t.

Deadline for Requesting Special Accommodations: January 5, 2009, 12 noon, e.s.t.

ADDRESSES: *Meeting Location:* Washington Marriott at Metro Center, 775 12th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005.

Meeting Registration, Presentations, and Written Comments: Lynne Johnson, Designated Federal Official, Division of Forum and Conference Development, Office of External Affairs, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 7500 Security Boulevard, Mailstop S1-05-06, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850 or contact Ms. Johnson via e-mail at Lynne.Johnson@cms.hhs.gov.

Registration: The meeting is open to the public, but attendance is limited to the space available. Persons wishing to attend this meeting must register by contacting Lynne Johnson at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice or by telephone at (410) 786-0090, by the date listed in the **DATES** section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lynne Johnson, (410) 786-0090. Please refer to the CMS Advisory Committees' Information Line (1-877-449-5659 toll free)/(410-786-9379 local) or the Internet (http://www.cms.hhs.gov/FACA/04_APME.asp) for additional information and updates on committee activities. Press inquiries are handled through the CMS Press Office at (202) 690-6145.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services (the Secretary) to establish an advisory panel if the Secretary determines that the panel is "in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed * * * by law." Such duties are imposed by section 1804 of the Social Security Act (the Act), requiring the Secretary to provide informational materials to Medicare beneficiaries about the Medicare program, and section 1851(d) of the Act, requiring the Secretary to provide for "activities * * * to broadly disseminate information to [M]edicare beneficiaries * * * on the coverage options provided under [Medicare Advantage] in order to promote an active, informed selection among such options."

The Panel is also authorized by section 1114(f) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1311(f)) and section 222 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 217a). The Secretary signed the charter establishing this Panel on January 21, 1999 and approved the renewal of the charter on November 14, 2006. The establishment of the charter and the renewal of the

charter were announced in the February 17, 1999 **Federal Register** (64 FR 7899), and the March 23, 2007 **Federal Register** (72 FR 13796), respectively. The Panel advises and makes recommendations to the Secretary and the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on opportunities to enhance the effectiveness of consumer education strategies concerning the Medicare program. The Secretary delegates authority to the Administrator.

The goals of the Panel are as follows:

- To provide recommendations on the development and implementation of a national Medicare education program that describes the options for selecting a health plan and prescription drug plan under Medicare.

- To enhance the Federal government's effectiveness in informing the Medicare consumer, including the appropriate use of public-private partnerships.

- To provide recommendations on how to expand outreach to vulnerable and underserved communities, including racial and ethnic minorities, in the context of a national Medicare education program.

- To assemble an information base of best practices for helping consumers evaluate health plan options and build a community infrastructure for information, counseling, and assistance.

The current members of the Panel are: Gwendolyn T. Bronson, SHINE/SHIP Counselor, Massachusetts SHINE Program; Dr. Yanira Cruz, President and Chief Executive Officer, National Hispanic Council on Aging; Stephen L. Fera, Vice President, Social Mission Programs, Independence Blue Cross; Clayton Fong, President and Chief Executive Officer, National Asian Pacific Center on Aging; Nan Kirsten-Fort, Executive Vice President, Consumer Services, WebMD; Dr. Jessie C. Gruman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Center for the Advancement of Health; Kathy Hughes, Vice Chairwoman, Oneida Nation; Gail Hunt, President and Chief Executive Officer, National Alliance for Caregiving; Dr. Frank B. McArdle, Manager, Hewitt Research Office, Hewitt Associates; Sandy Markwood, Chief Executive Officer, National Area Agencies on Aging; Molly Mettler, Senior Vice President, Healthwise; Robert L. Mollica, Senior Program Director, National Academy for State Health Policy; Julie Bodon Schmidt, Associate Vice President, Training and Technical Assistance Department, National Association of Community Health Centers; Rebecca Snead, Executive Vice President and Chief

Executive Officer, National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations.

The agenda for the January 13, 2009 meeting will include the following:

- Recap of the previous (October 22, 2008) meeting.
- Medicare Outreach and Education Strategies.
- Public Comment.
- Listening Session with CMS Leadership.
- Next Steps.

Individuals or organizations that wish to make a 5-minute oral presentation on an agenda topic should submit a written copy of the oral presentation to Lynne Johnson at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice by the date listed in the **DATES** section of this notice. The number of oral presentations may be limited by the time available. Individuals not wishing to make a presentation may submit written comments to Ms. Johnson at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice by the date listed in the **DATES** section of this notice.

Individuals requiring sign language interpretation or other special accommodations should contact Ms. Johnson at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice by the date listed in the **DATES** section of this notice.

Authority: Sec. 222 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 217a) and sec. 10(a) of Pub. L. 92-463 (5 U.S.C. App. 2, sec. 10(a) and 41 CFR 102-3).

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.733, Medicare—Hospital Insurance Program; and Program No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: November 20, 2008.

Kerry Weems,

Acting Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA-2008-N-0578]

Pediatric Ethics Subcommittee; Amendment of Notice

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing an amendment to the notice of meeting of the Pediatric Ethics Subcommittee of the Pediatric Advisory Committee. This meeting was