Background and Brief Description

Before CDC disseminates a health message to the public, the message always undergoes scientific review. However, even though the message is based on sound scientific content, there is no guarantee that the public will understand a health message or that the message will move people to take recommended action. Communication theorists and researchers agree that for health messages to be as clear and influential as possible, target audience members or representatives must be involved in developing the messages and provisional versions of the messages must be tested with members of the target audience.

However, increasingly there are circumstances when CDC must move swiftly to protect life, prevent disease, or calm public anxiety. Health message testing is even more important in these instances, because of the critical nature of the information need.

CDC receives a mandate from Congress with a tight deadline for communicating with the public about a specific topic. For example, Congress gave CDC 120 days to develop and test messages for a public information campaign about Helicobacter pylori, a bacterium that can cause stomach ulcers and increase cancer risk if an infected individual is not treated with antibiotics.

In the interest of timely health message dissemination, many programs forgo the important step of testing messages on dimensions such as clarity, salience, appeal, and persuasiveness (i.e., the ability to influence behavioral intention). Skipping this step avoids the delay involved in the standard OMB review process, but at a high potential cost. Untested messages can waste communication resources and opportunities because the messages can be perceived as unclear or irrelevant. Untested messages can also have unintended consequences, such as jeopardizing the credibility of Federal health officials.

The Health Message Testing System (HMTS), a generic information collection, will enable programs across CDC to collect the information they require in a timely manner to:

• Ensure quality and prevent waste in the dissemination of health information by CDC to the public.
• Refine message concepts and to test draft materials for clarity, salience, appeal, and persuasiveness to target audiences.
• Guide the action of health communication officials who are responding to health emergencies, Congressionally-mandated campaigns with short timeframes, media-generated public concern, time-limited communication opportunities, trends, and the need to refresh materials or dissemination strategies in an ongoing campaign.

Each testing instrument will be based on specific health issues or topics. Although it is not possible to develop one instrument for use in all instances, the same kinds of questions are asked in most message testing. This package includes generic questions and formats that can be used to develop health message testing data collection instruments. These include a list of screening questions, comprised of demographic and introductory questions, along with other questions that can be used to create a mix of relevant questions for each proposed message testing data collection method. However, programs may request to use additional questions if needed.

Message testing questions will focus on issues such as comprehension, impressions, personal relevance, content and wording, efficacy of response, channels, and spokesperson/sponsor. Such information will enable message developers to enhance the effectiveness of messages for intended audiences.

Data collection methods proposed for HMTS include intercept interviews, telephone interviews, focus groups, online surveys, and cognitive interviews. In almost all instances, data will be collected by outside organizations under contract with CDC.

There is no cost to the respondents other than their time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data collection methods</th>
<th>Number of respondents per method</th>
<th>Number of responses per respondent</th>
<th>Average burden per response (in hours)</th>
<th>Total burden hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Location Intercept Interviews, Telephone Interviews, Individual In-depth Interview (Cognitive Interviews), Focus Group Screenings, Focus Groups, Online Surveys</td>
<td>18,525</td>
<td></td>
<td>8/60</td>
<td>2,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2,470</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Background and Brief Description**

The mission of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is to promote safety and health at work for all people through research and prevention. In this capacity, NIOSH will conduct in-depth interviews designed to assess perceptions and opinions among the target audience, small construction business owners, and to provide content for the development of a survey to assess the occupational safety and health needs and motivators for seeking occupational safety and health (OSH) information among small construction business owners.

Exploring the OSH Needs of Small Construction Business is a four year field study for which the overall goal is to identify the occupational safety and health (OSH) needs of small construction businesses (SCBs), and to inform methods that will successfully motivate SCB owners to seek OSH training relevant to their unique work situations. The data gathered in this study regarding SCB owners’ specific business training needs, motivational factors, and preferred information sources will be of significant practical value when designing and implementing future interventions.

As part of this project, a survey will be developed to assess SCB owners’ specific training needs, motivational factors, and preferred information sources. The proposed in-depth interviews described here are a critical step toward the development of this survey. Phase 1 of this project included interview development and revision. The goal of Phase 2 of this project is to gather key-informant perceptions and opinions among the target audience, small construction business owners in the greater Cincinnati area with 10 or fewer employees. Data gathered from in-depth interviews will provide response content for the development of a survey to assess the occupational safety and health needs and motivators for seeking OSH information among small construction business owners. That is, the results of these interviews will be analyzed to identify common sets of responses, and these responses will be used in the development of the survey mentioned above.

Construction had the most fatal injuries of any sector, with 1,178 fatalities in 2006 (21% of total) (U.S. Dept. of Labor, 2008). More than 79% of construction businesses employ fewer than 10 employees (CPWR, 2007), and this establishment size experiences the highest fatality rate within construction (U.S. Dept. of Labor, 2008). The need for reaching this population with effective, affordable, and culturally appropriate training has been documented in publications and is increasingly becoming an institutional priority at NIOSH. Given the numerous obstacles which small construction business owners face in effectively managing occupational safety and health (e.g., financial and time constraints), there is a need for identifying the most crucial components of occupational safety and health training. Additionally, previous investigations suggest a need for persuading small construction business owners to seek out occupational safety and health training.

This interview will be administered to a sample of approximately 30 owners of construction businesses with 10 or fewer employees from the Greater Cincinnati area. The sample size is based on recommendations related to qualitative interview methods and the research team’s prior experience.

Participants for this data collection will be recruited with the assistance of contractors who have successfully performed similar tasks for NIOSH in the past. The interview questionnaire will be administered verbally to participants in English.

Once this study is complete, results will be made available via various means including print publications and the agency internet site. The information gathered by this project could be used by OSHA to determine guidelines for the development of appropriate training materials for small construction businesses. The results of this project will benefit construction workers by developing recommendations for increasing the effectiveness of occupational safety and health outreach methods specifically targeted to small construction businesses. Although beyond the scope of this study, it is expected that improved use of OSH programs will lower rates of injuries and fatalities for workers.

There is no cost to respondents other than their time. The total estimated annual burden hours are 45.

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**ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
<th>Number of responses per respondent</th>
<th>Average Burden per response (in hours)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCBs</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Dated: July 19, 2011.

Daniel Holcomb,

Reports Clearance Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS)

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Notice of Hearing: Reconsideration of Disapproval of Indiana State Plan Amendments (SPA) 11–011

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

ACTION: Notice of hearing.

SUMMARY: This notice announces an administrative hearing to be held on September 13, 2011, at the CMS Chicago Regional Office, 233 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 600, Chicago, IL 60601, to reconsider CMS’ decision to disapprove Indiana SPA 11–011.

DATES: Closing Date: Requests to participate in the hearing as a party must be received by the presiding officer by August 10, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Benjamin Cohen, Presiding Officer CMS, 2520 Lord Baltimore Drive, Suite L, Baltimore, Maryland 21244, Telephone: (410) 786–3169.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice announces an administrative hearing to reconsider CMS’ decision to disapprove Indiana SPA 11–011, which