• Recalls—Globally;
• GHTF Document on CAPA—Workshop;
• 510(k)—An Industry Perspective;
• Interdependency of Postmarket Surveillance, Risk, and CAPA;
• Promotional Practices—Global;
• Office of Compliance Initiatives;
• U.S. Senate HELP Committee Keynote Dinner;
• Risk Management Across the Quality Systems—FDA Expectations and Implementation;
• Global Regulatory Strategy; and
• FDA Inspectional Approach—Panel With Current FDA Investigators.

FDA has made education of the drug and device manufacturing community a high priority to help ensure the quality of FDA-regulated drugs and devices. The conference helps to achieve objectives set forth in section 406 of the Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act of 1997 (Pub. L. 105–115) (21 U.S.C. 393), which includes working closely with stakeholders and maximizing the availability and clarity of information to stakeholders and the public. The conference also is consistent with the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 105–121) by providing outreach activities by Government Agencies to small businesses.


Leslie Kux,
Acting Assistant Commissioner for Policy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan Brum, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 22, rm. 4160, Silver Spring, MD 20993–0002, 301–796–0578, email: dan.brum@fda.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

An important part of CDER’s commitment to make safe and effective drugs available to all Americans is optimizing the efficiency and quality of the drug review process. To support this primary goal, CDER has initiated various training and development programs to promote high performance in its regulatory project management staff. CDER seeks to significantly enhance review efficiency and review quality by providing the staff with a better understanding of the pharmaceutical industry and its operations. To this end, CDER is continuing its training program to give regulatory project managers the opportunity to tour pharmaceutical facilities. The goals are to provide the following: (1) Firsthand exposure to industry’s drug development processes and (2) a venue for sharing information about project management procedures (but not drug-specific information) with industry representatives.

II. The Site Tours Program

In this program, over a 2- to 3-day period, small groups (five or less) of regulatory project managers, including a senior level regulatory project manager, can observe operations of pharmaceutical manufacturing and/or packaging facilities, pathology/toxicology laboratories, and regulatory affairs operations. Neither this tour nor any part of the program is intended as a mechanism to inspect, assess, judge, or perform a regulatory function, but is meant rather to improve mutual understanding and to provide an avenue for open dialogue. During the Site Tours Program, regulatory project managers will also participate in daily workshops with their industry counterparts, focusing on selective regulatory issues important to both CDER staff and industry. The primary objective of the daily workshops is to learn about the team approach to drug development, including drug discovery, preclinical evaluation, tracking mechanisms, and regulatory submission operations. The overall benefit to regulatory project managers will be exposure to project management, team techniques, and processes employed by the pharmaceutical industry. By participating in this program, the regulatory project manager will grow professionally by gaining a better understanding of industry processes and procedures.

III. Site Selection

All travel expenses associated with the site tours will be the responsibility of CDER; therefore, selection will be based on the availability of funds and resources for each fiscal year. Selection will also be based on firms having a favorable facility status as determined by FDA’s Office of Regulatory Affairs District Offices in the firms’ respective regions. Firms interested in offering a site tour or learning more about this training opportunity should respond by submitting a proposed agenda to Dan Brum (see DATES AND FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT).


Leslie Kux,
Acting Assistant Commissioner for Policy.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
National Institutes of Health

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), 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 Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel; Cardiothoracic Surgery Program.

Date: March 12, 2012.

Time: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate contract proposals.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call)

Contact Person: Chang Sook Kim, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Office of Scientific Review/DERA. National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 7179, Bethesda, MD 20892–7924, 301–485–0267, carolok@mail.nih.gov.