Control and Prevention (CDC), announces the following meeting for the aforementioned subcommittee:

**Time and Date:** 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., September 30, 2013.

**Place:** Audio Conference Call via FTS Conferencing. The USA toll-free, dial-in number is 1–866–659–0537 and the pass code is 9933701.

**Status:** Open to the public, but without a public comment period. To access by conference call dial the following information 1(866) 659–0537, Participant Pass Code 9933701.

**Background:** The Advisory Board was established under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 to advise the Secretary, HHS, on dose reconstruction efforts performed for this program; and (c) upon request by the Secretary, HHS, advise the Secretary on whether there is a class of employees at any Department of Energy facility who were exposed to radiation but for whom it is not feasible to estimate their radiation dose, and on whether there is reasonable likelihood that such radiation doses may have endangered the health of members of this class. The Subcommittee for Dose Reconstruction Reviews was established to aid the Advisory Board in carrying out its duty to advise the Secretary, HHS, on dose reconstruction.

**Matters To Be Discussed:** The agenda for the Subcommittee meeting includes: dose reconstruction program quality management and assurance activities, including: current findings from NIOSH internal dose reconstruction blind reviews; and discussion of dose reconstruction cases under review (set 9, and Rocky Flats Plant, Los Alamos National Laboratory, and Paducah and Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plants cases from sets 10–13). The agenda is subject to change as priorities dictate.

In the event an individual cannot attend, written comments may be submitted. Any written comments received will be provided at the meeting and should be submitted to the contact person below well in advance of the meeting.

**Contact Person for More Information:** Theodore Katz, Designated Federal Official, NIOSH, CDC, 1600 Clifton Road, Mailstop E–20, Atlanta, Georgia 30333, Telephone (513) 533–6800, Toll Free 1(800) CDC–INFO, Email ocaas@cdc.gov.

The Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, has been delegated the authority to sign **Federal Register** notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities, for both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Catherine Ramadei,
Acting Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

[FR Doc. 2013–20973 Filed 8–27–13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4163–18–P**
meeting. Electronic copies of all meeting materials will be posted on the CMS and NCHS Web sites prior to the meeting at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ICD9ProviderDiagnosticCodes/03_meetings.asp#TopOfPage and http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd/icd9cm_maintenance.htm.

Contact Persons for Additional Information: Donna Pickett, Medical Systems Administrator, Classifications and Public Health Data Standards Staff, NCHS, 3311 Toledo Road, Room 2337, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782, email dfp4@cdc.gov, telephone 301–458–4434 (diagnosis); Mady Hue, Health Insurance Specialist, Division of Acute Care, CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland, 21244, email marilu.hue@cms.hhs.gov, telephone 410–786–4510 (procedures).

The Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, has been delegated the authority to sign Federal Register notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities, for both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Catherine Ramadei,
Acting Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
[CMS–3281–FN]

Medicare and Medicaid Programs:
Continued Approval of American Osteopathic Association/Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program (AOA/HFAP)’s Hospital Accreditation Program

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS.

ACTION: Final notice.

SUMMARY: This final notice announces our decision to approve American Osteopathic Association/Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program (AOA/HFAP) for continued recognition as a national accrediting organization for hospitals that wish to participate in the Medicare or Medicaid programs.

DATES: This final notice is effective September 25, 2013 through September 25, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Valarie Lazerowich, (410) 786–4750.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Under the Medicare program, eligible beneficiaries may receive covered services in a hospital provided certain requirements are met. Section 1861(e) of the Social Security Act (the Act) establishes distinct criteria for facilities seeking designation as a hospital.

Regulations concerning provider agreements are at 42 CFR part 489 and those pertaining to activities relating to the survey and certification of facilities are at 42 CFR part 488. The regulations at 42 CFR part 482 specify the conditions that a hospital must meet to participate in the Medicare program, the scope of covered services, and the conditions for Medicare payment for hospitals.

Generally, to enter into an agreement, a hospital must first be certified by a State survey agency as complying with the conditions or requirements set forth in part 482. Thereafter, the hospital is subject to regular surveys by a State survey agency to determine whether it continues to meet these requirements. However, there is an alternative to surveys by state agencies. Certification by a nationally recognized accreditation program can substitute for ongoing state review.

Section 1865(a)(1) of the Act provides that, if a provider entity demonstrates through accreditation by an approved national accrediting organization that all applicable Medicare conditions are met or exceeded, CMS will deem those provider entities as having met the requirements. Accreditation by an accrediting organization is voluntary and is not required for Medicare participation.

If an accrediting organization is recognized by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services as having standards for accreditation that meet or exceed Medicare requirements, any provider entity accredited by the national accrediting body’s approved program would be deemed to have met the Medicare conditions. A national accrediting organization applying for approval of its accreditation program under part 488, subpart A, must provide CMS with reasonable assurance that the accrediting organization requires the accredited provider entities to meet requirements that are at least as stringent as the Medicare conditions. Our regulations concerning the approval of accrediting organizations are set forth at § 488.4 and § 488.8(d)(3). The regulations at § 488.8(d)(3) require accrediting organizations to reapply for continued approval of its accreditation program every 6 years or sooner as determined by CMS.

The American Osteopathic Association/Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program’s (AOA/HFAP) current term of approval for their hospital accreditation program expires September 25, 2013.

II. Application Approval Process

Section 1865(a)(3)(A) of the Act provides a statutory timetable to ensure that our review of applications for CMS-approval of an accreditation program is conducted in a timely manner. The Act provides us 210 days after the date of receipt of a complete application, with any documentation necessary to make the determination, to complete our survey activities and application process. Within 60 days after receiving a complete application, we must publish a notice in the Federal Register that identifies the national accrediting body making the request, describes the request, and provides no less than a 30-day public comment period. At the end of the 210-day period, we must publish a notice in the Federal Register approving or denying the application.

III. Provisions of the Proposed Notice

On March 22, 2013, we published a proposed notice in the Federal Register (78 FR 17677) announcing AOA/HFAP’s request for approval of its hospital accreditation program. In the proposed notice, we detailed our evaluation criteria. Under section 1865(a)(2) of the Act and in our regulations at § 488.4 and § 488.8, we conducted a review of AOA/HFAP’s application in accordance with the criteria specified by our regulations, which include, but are not limited to the following:

- An onsite administrative review of AOA/HFAP: (1) Corporate policies; (2) financial and human resources available to accomplish the proposed surveys; (3) procedures for training, monitoring, and evaluation of its surveyors; (4) ability to investigate and respond appropriately to complaints against accredited facilities; and (5) survey review and decision-making process for accreditation.
- The comparison of AOA/HFAP’s accreditation to our current Medicare hospital conditions of participation.
- A documentation review of AOA/HFAP’s survey process to:
  + + Determine the composition of the survey team, surveyor qualifications, and AOA/HFAP’s ability to provide continuing surveyor training.
  + + Compare AOA/HFAP’s processes to those of state survey agencies, including survey frequency, and the