

annualized burden is estimated to be 50 hours.

Exhibit 2 shows the estimated annualized cost burden based on the respondents' time to participate in the

study. The total cost burden is estimated to be \$4,348.

EXHIBIT 1—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Hours per response	Total burden hours
TeamSTEPPS in Primary Care Post-Training Survey .....	150	1	20/60	50
Total .....	150	NA	NA	50

EXHIBIT 2—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST BURDEN

Form name	Number of respondents	Total burden hours	Average hourly wage rate *	Total cost burden
TeamSTEPPS Primary Care Post-Training Survey .....	150	50	<sup>a</sup> \$86.95	\$4,348
Total .....	150	50	86.95	4,348

\* National Compensation Survey: Occupational wages in the United States May 2012, "U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics."  
<sup>a</sup> Based on the mean wages for Family and General Practitioners 29-1062.

Request for Comments

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, comments on AHRQ's information collection are requested with regard to any of the following: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of AHRQ health care research and health care information dissemination functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of AHRQ's estimate of burden (including hours and costs) of the proposed collection(s) of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information upon the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the Agency's subsequent request for OMB approval of the proposed information collection. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 25, 2014.

**Richard Kronick,**  
*AHRQ Director.*

[FR Doc. 2014-18299 Filed 8-1-14; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality**

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the intention of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to request that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approve the proposed information collection project: "Continuing Education for Comparative Effectiveness Research Survey." In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), AHRQ invites the public to comment on this proposed information collection.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by October 3, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be submitted to: Doris Lefkowitz, Reports Clearance Officer, AHRQ, by email at [doris.lefkowitz@ahrq.hhs.gov](mailto:doris.lefkowitz@ahrq.hhs.gov).

Copies of the proposed collection plans, data collection instruments, and specific details on the estimated burden can be obtained from the AHRQ Reports Clearance Officer.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Doris Lefkowitz, AHRQ Reports Clearance Officer, (301) 427-1477, or by email at [doris.lefkowitz@ahrq.hhs.gov](mailto:doris.lefkowitz@ahrq.hhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Proposed Project**

*Continuing Education for Comparative Effectiveness Research Survey*

Patient-centered outcomes research (PCOR) is an area that has seen increased focus from research agencies and other government entities. Also known as comparative effectiveness research, PCOR is the focus of AHRQ's Effective Health Care (EHC) program, which has the mission of providing health care decision-makers (e.g., patients, healthcare providers, purchasers, and policymakers) with recent evidence-based information about the harms, benefits, and effectiveness of various treatment options by comparing medical devices, surgeries, tests, drugs, or ways to deliver health care.

The EHC program was created in response to Section 1013 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 and became the first federal program to conduct PCOR and disseminate those findings to the public. AHRQ works with researchers, academic organizations, and research centers through the EHC program on work relating to methods, training, and dissemination of products to a variety of stakeholders to help spread awareness and knowledge about PCOR. It is important for AHRQ to be able to measure the effectiveness of these products, which include training modules and publications, specifically around how they are affecting health care professionals' understanding, awareness, and use of PCOR and its related concepts. It is also important for

AHRQ to be able to identify ways to improve how this information is being disseminated to the medical community.

The Continuing Education for Comparative Effectiveness Research Project is designed to provide online continuing education materials that inform physicians and other healthcare providers about patient-centered health research from the EHC Program, specifically comparative effectiveness research reports, and other government-funded comparative clinical effectiveness research. Online multimedia continuing education modules based on the Effective Health Care Program <http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/tools-and-resources/cmece-activities/> comparative effectiveness research reports will be planned, developed, disseminated, and promoted. In addition, data will be collected on the modules to assess their effectiveness and impact.

This study is being conducted by AHRQ through its contractor, Hayes Inc. (Hayes) and Hayes' subcontractors, Deloitte Consulting LLP (Deloitte), pursuant to AHRQ's statutory authority to support the agency's dissemination of comparative clinical effectiveness research findings. 42 U.S.C. 299b-37(a)-(c).

**Method of Collection**

To achieve the goals of this project, the following data collection will be implemented:

(1) Each training module will involve one follow-up questionnaire that would be administered six months after the completion of the course for the purposes of tracking the longer-term effectiveness of the modules.

This data collection will help to meet AHRQ's objectives to:

1. Understand the extent to which these online continuing education modules based on the EHC Program comparative effectiveness research reports improve knowledge of each topic and change participants' awareness of, attitude towards, and/or confidence to apply GER in their clinical practice.
2. Track information about the dissemination efforts employed for CE/ CER information specific to the modules, and the uptake of AHRQ's other EHC Program materials as a result of the project, including the Clinician and Consumer Summaries when available.
3. Determine implementation practices (e.g. changes in practice behavior or implementation of the information conveyed in the modules) that occur as a result of the learning.
4. Identify opportunities for improving the presentation and delivery

of CE modules by gathering information on the participants' reactions to the modules and to the faculty presenters through the post-event evaluation assessment.

AHRQ will use the information collected through this Information Collection Request to assess the short- and long-term progress in achieving the dissemination and implementation aims of the Continuing Education project.

**Estimated Total Respondent Burden**

Exhibit 1 provides information on the estimated time to complete the data collection survey. These educational activities are enduring training modules and will be available for a 2-year period. The AHRQ Continuing Education for Comparative Effectiveness Research Survey will be administered to each individual 6 months after completing the module. On average, respondents will spend 5 minutes completing the survey. As many as 4,400 health care professionals are expected to complete the surveys, based on an average of 2,000 health care providers taking each module with a 10% response rate, or 200; 200 x 22 modules = 4,400. On average, respondents will spend 5 minutes completing the survey. The total burden is estimated to be 367 hours.

**EXHIBIT 1—ESTIMATED RESPONDENT BURDEN**

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Estimated number of respondents	Average burden per respondent (minutes)	Total burden (minutes) (A*B)	Number of responses per respondent	Total respondent burden (minutes) (C*D)	Total burden per respondent (minutes) (B*D)	Total respondent burden (hours) (E/60)
4400 .....	5	22,000	1	22,000	5	367

**EXHIBIT 2—ESTIMATED COST BURDEN**

Form name	Number of respondents	Total burden hours	Average hourly wage rate *	Total cost burden
AHRQ Online CME/CE 6-Month Evaluation .....	4,400	367	\$49.83	\$18,288
Total .....	4,400	367	N/A	18,288

\* Based upon the mean of the average hourly wages for Physicians (29-1069; \$92.25), Pharmacists (29-1051; \$56.01), Physician Assistants (29-1071; \$45.36), Nurse Practitioners (29-1171; \$45.71), Registered Nurses (29-1111; \$33.13), and Healthcare Practitioners (29-9099; \$26.54), May 2013 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, United States, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. [http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_nat.htm#29-0000](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm#29-0000) viewed May 5, 2014.

**Request for Comments**

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, comments on AHRQ's information collection are requested with regard to any of the following: (a) Whether the proposed collection of

information is necessary for the proper performance of AHRQ health care research and health care information dissemination functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of AHRQ's estimate of burden (including

hours and costs) of the proposed collection(s) of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information upon the respondents, including the use of

automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the Agency's subsequent request for OMB approval of the proposed information collection. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 24, 2014.

**Richard Kronick,**

*AHRQ Director.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the intention of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to request that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approve the proposed information collection project: "Updating and Expanding the AHRQ QI Toolkit for Hospitals." In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), AHRQ invites the public to comment on this proposed information collection.

This proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** on May 12th 2014 and allowed 60 days for public comment. No comments were received. The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comment.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by September 3, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be submitted to: Doris Lefkowitz, Reports Clearance Officer, AHRQ, by email at [doris.lefkowitz@ahrq.hhs.gov](mailto:doris.lefkowitz@ahrq.hhs.gov).

Copies of the proposed collection plans, data collection instruments, and specific details on the estimated burden can be obtained from the AHRQ Reports Clearance Officer.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Doris Lefkowitz, AHRQ Reports Clearance Officer, (301) 427-1477, or by email at [doris.lefkowitz@ahrq.hhs.gov](mailto:doris.lefkowitz@ahrq.hhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### Proposed Project

#### *Updating and Expanding the AHRQ QI Toolkit for Hospitals*

AHRQ has developed sets of Quality Indicators (QIs) that can be used to document quality and safety conditions at U.S. hospitals. Three sets of QIs are particularly relevant for hospitals and include: The Inpatient Quality Indicators (IQIs), the Patient Safety Indicators (PSIs), and the Pediatric Quality Indicators (PDIs). The IQIs contain measures of volume, mortality, and utilization for common medical conditions and major surgical procedures. The PSIs are a set of measures to screen for potentially preventable adverse events that patients may experience during hospitalization. The PDIs measure the quality of pediatric health care, mainly focusing on preventable complications that occur as a consequence of hospitalization among pediatric patients. These QIs have been previously developed and evaluated by AHRQ, and are in use at a number of hospitals throughout the country. The QIs and supportive documentation on how to work with them are posted on AHRQ's Web site at [www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov](http://www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov).

Despite the availability of the QIs as tools to help hospitals assess their performance, many U.S. hospitals have limited experience with the use of such measurement tools, or in using quality improvement methods to improve their performance as assessed by these measures. To this end, RAND has previously contracted with AHRQ to develop an AHRQ Quality Indicators Toolkit for Hospitals (Toolkit). This Toolkit is publicly available and is posted on AHRQ's Web site at <http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/systems/hospital/qitoolkit/index.html>. The Toolkit assists hospitals in both using the QIs and improving the quality and safety of the care they provide, as measured by those indicators. As such, the Toolkit includes: (1) Instruction on how a hospital can apply the QIs to its inpatient data to estimate rates for each indicator; (2) methods the hospital can use to evaluate these QI rates for identifying opportunities for improvement; (3) strategies for implementing interventions (or evidence-based best practices); (4) methods to measure progress and performance on the QIs; (5) tools for evaluating the cost-effectiveness of these changes; and (6) discussion of the value of using the QIs for quality improvement as well as potential challenges and barriers to quality improvement efforts that incorporate the QIs and how to help overcome them.

OMB approval was obtained for the development and evaluation of the original Toolkit in 2012, Development and Evaluation of AHRQ's Quality Indicators Improvement Toolkit (OMB #0935-0164), which consisted of a protocol very similar to the one described in this statement.

Since the release of the Toolkit in 2012, the QIs have been updated and expanded, best practices have advanced, and many hospitals have improved their understanding of their quality improvement needs as well as increased their familiarity with the use of the Toolkit. These factors all point to the critical need to update the Toolkit. AHRQ has funded RAND which partners with the University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC) to update and expand the Toolkit, and field test the updated Toolkit with hospitals as they carry out initiatives designed to improve performance on the QIs.

This research has the following goals:

(1) To assess the usability of the updated Toolkit for hospitals—with an emphasis on the Pediatric Quality Indicators (PDI)—in order to improve the Toolkit, and

(2) To examine hospitals' experiences in implementing interventions to improve their performance on the AHRQ QIs, the results of which will be used to guide successful future applications of the Toolkit.

This study is being conducted by AHRQ through its contractor, the RAND Corporation, under contract number HHS2902010000171, pursuant to AHRQ's statutory authority to conduct and support research on health care and on systems for the delivery of such care, including activities with respect to the quality, effectiveness, efficiency, appropriateness and value of health care services and with respect to quality measurement and improvement. 42 U.S.C. 299a(a)(1) and (2).

#### Method of Collection

To achieve the goals of this project, the following data collections will be implemented:

(1) Pre/post-test interview protocol—consisting of both open and closed ended questions will be administered prior to implementation of the Toolkit and again post implementation. The purpose of this data collection is to obtain data on the steps the hospitals took to implement actions to improve performance on the QIs; their plans for making process changes; and their experiences in achieving changes and perceptions regarding lessons learned that could be shared with other hospitals.