

Frequency of Response: Once annually.  
 Estimated Number of Respondents: 187,000 respondents.

By direction of the Secretary:  
**Cynthia Harvey-Pryor,**  
*Program Specialist, Office of Privacy and Records Management, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Joint Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development and Clinical Science Research and Development Services Scientific Merit Review Board Amended; Notice of Meetings**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463; Title 5 U.S.C. App. 2 (Federal

Advisory Committee Act) that the subcommittees of the Joint Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development and Clinical Science Research and Development Services Scientific Merit Review Board (JBL/CS SMRB) will meet from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the dates indicated below (unless otherwise listed). This Notice of Meetings is being amended due to date changes.

Subcommittee	Date	Location
Surgery	November 16, 2016	Residence Inn Arlington Pentagon City.
Infectious Diseases-B	November 17, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Oncology-A/D	November 17, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Hematology	November 18, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Oncology-C	November 18, 2016	* VA Central Office.
Cellular & Molecular Medicine	November 21, 2016	* VA Central Office.
Oncology-E	November 21, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Oncology-B	November 28, 2016	* VA Central Office.
Epidemiology	November 29, 2016	* VA Central Office.
Infectious Diseases-A	November 29, 2016	* VA Central Office.
Mental Health & Behavioral Sciences-A	November 29, 2016	* VA Central Office.
Nephrology	November 29, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Immunology-A	November 30, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Mental Health & Behavioral Sciences-B	November 30, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Cardiovascular Studies-A	December 1, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Endocrinology-B	December 1, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Neurobiology-C	December 1, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Pulmonary Medicine	December 1, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Neurobiology-A	December 2, 2016	* VA Central Office.
Neurobiology-E	December 2, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Special Emphasis on Genomics	December 2, 2016	* VA Central Office.
Endocrinology-A	December 5, 2016	Hyatt Regency Washington.
Neurobiology-B	December 6, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Cardiovascular Studies-B	December 8, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Gastroenterology	December 8, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Neurobiology-D	December 9, 2016	Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport.
Gulf War Research	December 9, 2016	* VA Central Office.
Jt BL/CS SMRB	January 26, 2017	* VA Central Office.
Eligibility	January 27, 2017	Hyatt Regency Washington.

The addresses of the meeting sites are:  
 Hilton Crystal City—Reagan National Airport, 2399 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA.  
 Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Avenue NW., Washington, DC.  
 \* VA Central Office, 1100 First Street NE., Suite 600, Washington, DC.  
 \* Teleconference.

The purpose of the subcommittees is to provide advice on the scientific quality, budget, safety and mission relevance of investigator-initiated research proposals submitted for VA merit review evaluation. Proposals submitted for review include diverse medical specialties within the general areas of biomedical, behavioral and clinical science research.

These subcommittee meetings will be closed to the public for the review, discussion, and evaluation of initial and renewal research proposals, which involve reference to staff and consultant critiques of research proposals.

Discussions will deal with scientific merit of each proposal and qualifications of personnel conducting the studies, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Additionally, premature disclosure of research information could significantly frustrate implementation of proposed agency action regarding the research proposals. As provided by subsection 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, as amended by Public Law 94-409, closing the subcommittee meetings is in accordance with Title 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B).

Those who would like to obtain a copy of the minutes from the closed subcommittee meetings and rosters of the subcommittee members should contact Holly Krull, Ph.D., Manager, Merit Review Program (10P9B), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420, at (202) 632-8522 or email at [holly.krull@va.gov](mailto:holly.krull@va.gov).

Dated: October 5, 2016.

**LaTonya L. Small,**  
*Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

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