In addition to the partnerships above, HRSA is seeking comment on state or regional initiatives to consider when establishing the qualifying standards for the CHGME Quality Bonus System, as well as suggestions for how to distinguish between levels of engagement and performance in a meaningful way.

*Documentation:* To receive a quality bonus payment based upon engagement in state- or regional-level pediatric health care transformation, CHGME hospitals would be required to submit a letter from the lead organization, which could include the project director for a HRSA-supported program or the state Medicaid Director, confirming participation by the children’s hospital in the program and delineating the roles and responsibilities of the children’s hospital in the program activities. In addition, CHGME hospitals would be required to submit a brief narrative statement describing how CHGME trainees are integrated into state- or regional-level pediatric health care transformation activities and the expected benefits for trainees and the health systems served by the children’s hospital. HRSA is seeking comment on this proposed approach including opportunities to limit burden and streamline the documentation to determine whether applicants meet standards and distinguish among levels of engagement and performance.

*Payment Structure:* HRSA proposes that CHGME hospitals that meet the standards receive a portion of the available funds for the CHGME Quality Bonus System. HRSA proposes a three tiered payment structure to recognize the different annual payment levels received by CHGME hospitals. Hospitals that meet the Quality Bonus Systems standards will be evenly divided into three tiers based on their combined direct and indirect fiscal year payment amounts, as calculated per the established CHGME program formulas:

- Tier 1: Hospitals that qualify for the quality bonus payment that are in the lowest third among hospitals that qualify for the quality bonus payment of calculated CHGME annual payments will receive a base payment.
- Tier 2: Hospitals that qualify for the quality bonus payment that are in the middle third will receive two times the base payment.
- Tier 3: Hospitals that qualify for the quality bonus payment that are in the highest third will receive three times the base payment.

The base payment rate would be determined as a proportion of the total amount available and the number of hospitals that qualify for the CHGME Quality Bonus System in a fiscal year. HRSA would also seek to recognize the hospital’s level of engagement or performance in the bonus amount. HRSA is also interested in gathering views and suggestions on whether any of the existing information that hospitals already report to the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services, HRSA, accrediting bodies, and others could be used to measure the performance of GME programs and related health outcomes for FY 2019 or subsequent years. This could be individual measures or combinations of measures that are reported to different entities.

**Quality Bonus Payment in FY 2020 and Beyond—Areas for Public Comment**

In future years, HRSA will refine the CHGME Quality Bonus System to reflect the feedback received from stakeholders, as well as advancements in the development of standardized GME quality measures. To that end, HRSA also is requesting comments on several areas of the Quality Bonus System that will be implemented in FY 2020 and beyond. For long-term implementation, HRSA seeks public comments on the following areas:

- **CHGME Hospital Eligibility:** HRSA proposes to include all eligible CHGME hospitals, including those newly qualified, as eligible entities for the CHGME Quality Bonus System.
- **Quality Bonus System Measures:** HRSA is seeking comment on appropriate GME outcome measures that can assess and distinguish performance in meaningful ways. HRSA is considering several GME outcome measures including resident specialty outcomes (e.g., number of graduates in high need pediatric specialties), resident service outcomes (e.g., service to high need rural or underserved communities), and children’s hospital quality outcomes. As noted above, these measures could be existing measures that hospitals already report or new ones that would be developed or improved for use in determining quality bonuses.
- **Data Sources:** HRSA is seeking comment on available data sources on which to base the Quality Bonus System. HRSA is requesting comments on data sources that are publicly available, will streamline reporting requirements, and will limit burden on CHGME programs.
- **Tiering of Quality Bonus Payments:** HRSA is requesting comments on payment structures to recognize hospitals according to their level of engagement and/or outcomes while also taking into account the different size of GME programs. The goal is for payment structures to recognize the quality of hospitals’ programs considering the different circumstances in which different children’s hospitals operate (e.g., patient severity, size of training programs, number of specialties trained, etc.)

**Frequency of Review:** HRSA plans to review and update the CHGME Quality Bonus System standards regularly to reflect changes in GME and advances in measuring GME outcomes.

Dated: October 5, 2017
George Sigounas,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2017–22381 Filed 10–13–17; 8:45 am]
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The ACHDNC provides advice to the Secretary of HHS on the development of newborn screening programs for effectively reducing morbidity and mortality in newborns and children having, or at risk for, heritable disorders. In addition, ACHDNC’s recommendations regarding inclusion of additional conditions and inherited disorders for screening which have been adopted by the Secretary are then included in the Recommended Uniform Screening Panel (RUSP). Conditions listed on the RUSP constitute part of the comprehensive preventive health guidelines supported by HRSA for infants and children under section 2713 of the Public Health Service Act, codified at 42 U.S.C. 300gg–13. Under this provision, non-grandfathered health plans are required to cover screenings included in the HRSA-supported comprehensive guidelines without charging a copayment, co-insurance, or deductible for plan years (i.e., policy years) beginning on or after the date that is one year from the Secretary’s adoption of the condition for screening.

The meeting agenda will include: (1) An update on states’ progress toward the newborn screening timeliness goals outlined by the Committee; (2) a presentation on phase 2 of the spinal muscular atrophy evidence review; (3) presentations on newborn screening topics such as the clinical and public health impact of Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID), carrier status in the context of newborn screening, and a review of long term follow up in newborn screening; and (4) updates from the Laboratory Standards and Procedures workgroup, Follow-up and Treatment workgroup, and Education and Training workgroup. The Committee will not be voting on a proposed addition of a condition to the RUSP. Agenda items are subject to change. The final meeting agenda will be available 2 days prior to the meeting on the Committee’s Web site: http://www.hrsa.gov/advisorycommittees/mchb/advisory/heritabledisorders.

Members of the public will have the opportunity to provide comments. All comments are part of the official Committee record. To submit written comments or request time for an oral comment at the meeting, please register online by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on November 2, 2017, at http://www.achdncmeetings.org/. To ensure all individuals who have registered and requested time for oral comments are accommodated, the allocated time for comments may be limited. Individuals associated with groups or who plan to provide comments on similar topics may be asked to combine their comments and present them through a single representative. No audiovisual presentations are permitted. Written comments should identify the individual’s name, address, email, telephone number, professional or organization affiliation, background or area of expertise (i.e., parent, family member, researcher, clinician, public health, etc.) and the topic/subject matter.

Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify Ann Ferrero using the address provided below by October 24, 2017, 12:00 p.m. For further information contact: Ann Ferrero, MCHB, HRSA 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 18N100C, Rockville, MD 20857; (2) call 301–443–5600; or (3) send an email to: AFerrero@hrsa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anyone requesting information regarding the ACHDNC should contact Ann Ferrero, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), HRSA, in one of three ways: (1) Send a request to the following address: Ann Ferrero, MCHB, HRSA 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 18N100C, Rockville, MD 20857; (2) call 301–443–3999; or (3) send an email to: AFerrero@hrsa.gov.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting 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 Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Special Emphasis Panel; NIAID Clinical Trial Planning Grant (R34) and Implementation Cooperative Agreement (U01).

Date: November 6–9, 2017.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 5601 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Geetanjali Bansal, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Scientific Review Program, Division of Extramural Activities, Room 3G49, National Institutes of Health/ NIAID, 5601 Fishers Lane, MSC 9834, Bethesda, MD 20892–9834, (240) 669–5073, geetanjali.bansal@nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.855, Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation Research; 93.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research. National Institutes of Health, HHS)


Natasha M. Copeland, Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2017–22259 Filed 10–13–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

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