

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.
Robert E. Feldman,
Executive Secretary.
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Patient Safety Organizations: Voluntary Relinquishment From Fides, LLC

AGENCY: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).
ACTION: Notice of delisting.

SUMMARY: The Patient Safety Rule authorizes AHRQ, on behalf of the Secretary of HHS, to list as a PSO an entity that attests that it meets the statutory and regulatory requirements for listing. A PSO can be “delisted” by the Secretary if it is found to no longer meet the requirements of the Patient Safety Act and Patient Safety Rule, when a PSO chooses to voluntarily relinquish its status as a PSO for any reason, or when a PSO’s listing expires. AHRQ has accepted a notification of voluntary relinquishment from Fides, LLC, PSO number P0134, of its status as a PSO, and has delisted the PSO accordingly.

DATES: The directories for both listed and delisted PSOs are ongoing and reviewed weekly by AHRQ. The delisting was effective at 12:00 Midnight ET (2400) on October 9, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Both directories can be accessed electronically at the following HHS website: <http://www.pso.ahrq.gov/listed>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eileen Hogan, Center for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety, AHRQ, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 06N94B, Rockville, MD 20857; Telephone (toll free): (866) 403–3697; Telephone (local): (301) 427–1111; TTY (toll free): (866) 438–7231; TTY (local): (301) 427–1130; Email: psa@ahrq.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005, 42 U.S.C. 299b–21 to b–26, (Patient Safety Act) and the related Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Final Rule, 42 CFR part 3 (Patient Safety Rule), published in the **Federal Register** on November 21, 2008, 73 FR 70732–

70814, establish a framework by which hospitals, doctors, and other health care providers may voluntarily report information to Patient Safety Organizations (PSOs), on a privileged and confidential basis, for the aggregation and analysis of patient safety events.

The Patient Safety Act authorizes the listing of PSOs, which are entities or component organizations whose mission and primary activity are to conduct activities to improve patient safety and the quality of health care delivery.

HHS issued the Patient Safety Rule to implement the Patient Safety Act. AHRQ administers the provisions of the Patient Safety Act and Patient Safety Rule relating to the listing and operation of PSOs. The Patient Safety Rule authorizes AHRQ to list as a PSO an entity that attests that it meets the statutory and regulatory requirements for listing. A PSO can be “delisted” if it is found to no longer meet the requirements of the Patient Safety Act and Patient Safety Rule, when a PSO chooses to voluntarily relinquish its status as a PSO for any reason, or when a PSO’s listing expires. Section 3.108(d) of the Patient Safety Rule requires AHRQ to provide public notice when it removes an organization from the list of federally approved PSOs.

AHRQ has accepted a notification from Fides, LLC, a component entity of Spectrum Medical Group, P.A., to voluntarily relinquish its status as a PSO. Accordingly, Fides, LLC, P0134, was delisted effective at 12:00 Midnight ET (2400) on October 9, 2018.

Fides, LLC has patient safety work product (PSWP) in its possession. The PSO will meet the requirements of section 3.108(c)(2)(i) of the Patient Safety Rule regarding notification to providers that have reported to the PSO and of section 3.108(c)(2)(ii) regarding disposition of PSWP consistent with section 3.108(b)(3). According to section 3.108(b)(3) of the Patient Safety Rule, the PSO has 90 days from the effective date of delisting and revocation to complete the disposition of PSWP that is currently in the PSO’s possession.

More information on PSOs can be obtained through AHRQ’s PSO website at <http://www.pso.ahrq.gov>.

Francis D. Chesley, Jr.,
Acting Deputy Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Docket No. CDC–2018–0101]

Vessel Sanitation Program: Annual Program Status Meeting; Request for Comment

AGENCY: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), located within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), announces the 2019 Vessel Sanitation Program (VSP) public meeting. This meeting serves as a forum for HHS/CDC to present clarifications to the 2018 VSP Operations Manual and Construction Guidelines and the proposed fee schedule for fiscal year 2020. HHS/CDC is also opening a public docket so that additional comments and materials may be submitted. The official record of this meeting will remain open through February 22, 2019, so that materials or additional comments related to the matters discussed at the meeting may be submitted and made part of the record.

DATES: Written comments and all materials must be received on or before February 22, 2019.

The meeting will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on January 16, 2019, in the Ballroom at the DoubleTree Grand Hotel Biscayne Bay, 1717 North Bayshore Drive, Miami, FL 33132. Information regarding logistics is available on the VSP website (www.cdc.gov/nceh/vsp).

Deadline for Requests for Special Accommodations: Persons wishing to participate in the public meeting who need special accommodations should contact Commander Aimee Treffiletti (vsp@cdc.gov or 954–356–6650 or 770–488–3141) by Monday, January 14, 2019.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. CDC–2018–0101, by any of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- **Mail:** Vessel Sanitation Program, National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 4770 Buford Highway NE, MS F–58, Atlanta, Georgia 30341.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and