Aggregation of these data enables PSOs and others to identify and address underlying causal factors of patient safety and quality issues.

The Patient Safety Act provides for the development of standardized reporting formats using common language and definitions to ensure that health care quality and patient safety data collected by PSOs and other entities are comparable. The Common Formats facilitate aggregation of comparable data at local, PSO, regional, and national levels. In addition, the formats are intended to enhance the reporting of information that is standardized both clinically and electronically.

AHRQ has developed Common Formats for three settings of care—acute care hospitals, nursing homes, and community pharmacies—for use by health care providers and PSOs. AHRQ-listed PSOs are required to collect patient safety work product in a standardized manner to the extent practical and appropriate; this is a requirement the PSO can meet by collecting such information using Common Formats. Additionally, providers and other organizations not working with an AHRQ-listed PSO can use the Common Formats in their work to improve quality and safety; however, they cannot benefit from the federal confidentiality and privilege protections of the Patient Safety Act.

Since February 2005, AHRQ has convened the Federal Patient Safety Work Group (PSWG) to assist AHRQ in developing and maintaining the Common Formats. The PSWG includes major health agencies within HHS as well as the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs. The PSWG helps assure the consistency of definitions/formats with those of relevant government agencies. In addition, AHRQ has solicited comments from the private and public sectors regarding proposed versions of the Common Formats through a contract, since 2008, with the National Quality Forum (NQF), which is a non-profit organization focused on health care quality. After receiving comments, the NQF solicits review of the formats by its Common Formats Expert Panel. Subsequently, NQF provides this input to AHRQ who then uses it to refine the Common Formats.

Previously, AHRQ's primary focus with the formats has been to support traditional event reporting. For the Common Formats, it should be noted that AHRQ uses the term "surveillance" in this context to refer to the improved detection of events and calculation of adverse event rates in populations reviewed that will allow for collection of comparable performance data over time and across populations of patients. These formats are designed to provide, through retrospective review of medical records, information that is complementary to that derived from event reporting systems. For more information on AHRQ's efforts measuring patient safety in this area, please go to: https://www.ahrq.gov/news/blog/ahrqviews/new-system-aims-to-improve-patient-safety-monitoring.html.

The Common Formats for Surveillance—Hospital Version 0.3 Beta include two general types of formats, generic and event-specific. The generic Common Formats pertain to all patient safety concerns. The event-specific Common Formats pertain to frequently occurring and/or serious patient safety events. The Common Formats for Surveillance—Hospital Version 0.3 Beta event-specific formats are: Blood or Blood Product, Birth—Maternal, Birth—Neonatal, Device, Fall, Medication, Pressure Ulcer/Pressure Injury, Surgery or Anesthesia, Venous Thromboembolism, Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI)—Catheter Associated Tract Infection (CAUTI)/Clostridium Difficile—Clostridioides Infection (CDI)/Central Line Associated Blood Stream Infection (CLABSI)/Pneumonia/Surgical Site Infection (SSI)/Urinary Tract Infection (UTI), Other HAI, and Other Outcomes of Interest (OOI).

AHRQ is specifically interested in receiving feedback in order to guide the improvement of the formats. Information on how to comment on the Common Formats for Surveillance—Hospital Version 0.3 Beta is available at: http://www.qualityforum.org/Project_Pages/Common_Formats_for_Patient_Safety_Data.aspx.

Additional information about the Common Formats can be obtained through AHRQ's PSO website: https://pso.ahrq.gov/.

Virginia L. Mackay-Smith, Associate Director.

[FR Doc. 2019–13661 Filed 6–26–19; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS–7054–N]

Announcement of the Advisory Panel on Outreach and Education (APOE) July 16, 2019 Meeting

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the next meeting of the APOE (the Panel) in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The Panel advises and makes recommendations to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on opportunities to enhance the effectiveness of consumer education strategies concerning the Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP). This meeting is open to the public.

DATES: Meeting Date: Tuesday, July 16, 2019, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. eastern daylight time (e.d.t.). Deadline for Meeting Registration, Presentations, Special Accommodations and Comments: Tuesday, July 2, 2019, 5 p.m., e.d.t.


Presentations and Written Comments: Presentations and written comments should be submitted to: Lisa Carr, Designated Federal Official (DFO), Office of Communications, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 200 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 325G HHH, Washington, DC 20201, 202–690–5742, or via email at Lisa.Carr@cms.hhs.gov.

Registration: The meeting is open to the public, but attendance is limited to the space available. Persons wishing to attend this meeting must register at the website https://www.eventbrite.com/e/apoe-july-16–2019-meeting-tickets-60810918093 or by contacting the DFO listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this notice, by the date listed in the DATES section of this notice. Individuals requiring sign language interpretation or other special accommodations should contact the DFO at the address listed in the
The Advisory Panel for Outreach and Education (APOE) (the Panel) is governed by the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (Pub. L. 92–463), as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), which sets forth standards for the formation and use of federal advisory committees. The Panel is authorized by section 1114(f) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1314(f)) and section 222 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 217a).

The Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health Services (HHS) (the Secretary) signed the charter establishing the Citizen’s Advisory Panel on Medicare Education 1 (the predecessor to the APOE) on January 21, 1999 (64 FR 7899) to advise and make recommendations to the Secretary and the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on the effective implementation of national Medicare education programs, including with respect to the Medicare+Choice (M+C) program added by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Pub. L. 105–33).

The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA) (Pub. L. 108–173) expanded the existing health plan options and benefits available under the M+C program and renamed it the Medicare Advantage (MA) program. CMS has had substantial responsibilities to provide information to Medicare beneficiaries about the range of health plan options available and better tools to evaluate these options. The successful MA program implementation required CMS to consider the views and policy input from a variety of private sector constituents and to develop a broad range of public-private partnerships.

In addition, Title I of the MMA authorized the Secretary and the Administrator of CMS (by delegation) to establish the Medicare prescription drug benefit. The drug benefit allows beneficiaries to obtain qualified prescription drug coverage. In order to effectively administer the MA program and the Medicare prescription drug benefit, we have substantial responsibilities to provide information to Medicare beneficiaries about the range of health plan options and benefits available, and to develop better tools to evaluate these plans and benefits.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Pub. L. 111–148) and Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Pub. L. 111–152) (collectively referred to as the Affordable Care Act) expanded the availability of other options for health care coverage and enacted a number of changes to Medicare as well as to Medicaid and CHIP. Qualified individuals and qualified employers are now able to purchase private health insurance coverage through a competitive marketplace, called an Affordable Insurance Exchange (also called Health Insurance MarketplaceSM or MarketplaceSM). In order to effectively implement and administer these changes, we must provide information to consumers, providers, and other stakeholders through education and outreach programs regarding how existing programs will change and the expanded range of health coverage options available, including private health insurance coverage through the MarketplaceSM. The APOE (the Panel) allows us to consider a broad range of views and information from interested audiences in connection with this effort and to identify opportunities to enhance the effectiveness of education strategies concerning the Affordable Care Act.

The scope of this Panel also includes advising on issues pertaining to the education of providers and stakeholders with respect to the Affordable Care Act and certain provisions of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act enacted as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) (Pub. L. 111–5).

On January 21, 2011, the Panel’s charter was renewed and the Panel was renamed the Advisory Panel for Outreach and Education. The Panel’s charter was most recently renewed on January 19, 2019, and will terminate on January 19, 2021 unless renewed by appropriate action.

B. Charter Renewal

In accordance with the charter filed on January 19, 2019, the APOE was renewed. The APOE will advise the HHS and CMS on developing and implementing education programs that support individuals who are enrolled in or eligible for Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, or health coverage available through the Health Insurance MarketplaceSM and other CMS programs about options for selecting health care coverage under these programs envisioned under health care reform to ensure improved access to quality care, including prevention services.

The scope of this Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) group also includes advising on education of providers and stakeholders with respect to health care reform and certain provisions of the HITECH Act enacted as part of the ARRA.

The charter will terminate on January 19, 2021, unless renewed by appropriate action. The APOE was chartered under 42 U.S.C. 217a, section 222 of the Public Health Service Act, as amended. The APOE is governed by provisions of Public Law 92–463, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), which sets forth standards for the formation and use of advisory committees.

In accordance with the renewed charter, the APOE will advise the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the CMS Administrator concerning optimal strategies for the following:

- Developing and implementing education and outreach programs for individuals enrolled in, or eligible for, Medicare, Medicaid, the CHIP, and coverage available through the Health Insurance MarketplaceSM and other CMS programs.
- Enhancing the federal government’s effectiveness in informing Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, or the Health Insurance MarketplaceSM consumers, issuers, providers, and stakeholders, pursuant to education and outreach programs of issues regarding these programs, including the appropriate use of public-private partnerships to leverage the resources of the private sector in educating beneficiaries, providers and stakeholders.

- Expanding outreach to vulnerable and underserved communities, including racial and ethnic minorities, in the context of Medicare, Medicaid, the CHIP and the Health Insurance MarketplaceSM education programs, and other CMS programs as designated.

1 We note that the Citizen’s Advisory Panel on Medicare Education is also referred to as the Advisory Panel on Medicare Education (65 FR 4617). The name was updated in the Second Amended Charter approved on July 24, 2000.

2 Health Insurance MarketplaceSM and MarketplaceSM are service marks of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.
• Assembling and sharing an information base of “best practices” for helping consumers evaluate health coverage options.
• Building and leveraging existing community infrastructures for information, counseling, and assistance.
• Drawing the program link between outreach and education, promoting consumer understanding of health care coverage choices, and facilitating consumer selection/enrollment, which in turn support the overarching goal of improved access to quality care, including prevention services, envisioned under the Affordable Care Act.

The current members of the Panel as of May 20, 2019 are: Robert Blancto, President, Matz, Blancto & Associates; Dale Blasier, Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Department of Orthopedics, Arkansas Children’s Hospital; Deborah Britt, Executive Director of Patient Services, Piedmont Fayette Hospital; Deena Chisolm, Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Public Health, The Ohio State University College of Medicine, The Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital; Robert Espinoza, Vice President of Policy, Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute; Louise Scheurer Knight, Director, Harry J. Duffey Family Patient and Family Services Program, Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center; Cathy Phan, Business Director, American Health Coalition dba HOPE Development Coordinator; Kamilah Pickett, Director, Asian American Health Coalition dba HOPE Clinic; Alvia Siddiqi, Medical Director, Advocate Physician Partners; and Tobin Van Osten, Co-Founder, Young Invincibles Advisors.

II. Provisions of This Notice

In accordance with section 10(a) of the FACA, this notice announces a meeting of the APOE. The agenda for the July 16, 2019 meeting will include the following:
• Welcome and listening session with CMS leadership
• Recap of the previous (April 10, 2019) meeting
• CMS programs, initiatives, and priorities
• An opportunity for public comment
• Meeting summary, review of recommendations, and next steps

Individuals or organizations that wish to make a 5-minute oral presentation on an agenda topic should submit a written copy of the oral presentation to the DFO at the address listed in the ADDRESSES section of this notice by the date listed in the DATES section of this notice. The number of oral presentations may be limited by the time available. Individuals not wishing to make an oral presentation may submit written comments to the DFO at the address listed in the ADDRESSES section of this notice by the date listed in the DATES section of this notice.

III. Security, Building, and Parking Guidelines

The meeting is open to the public, but attendance is limited to the space available. Persons wishing to attend this meeting must register by contacting the DFO at the address listed in the ADDRESSES section of this notice by telephone at the number listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this notice by the date specified in the DATES section of this notice. This meeting will be held in a federal government building, the Hubert H. Humphrey (HHH) Building; therefore, federal security measures are applicable.

The REAL ID Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 109–13) establishes minimum standards for the issuance of state-issued driver’s licenses and identification (ID) cards. It prohibits federal agencies from accepting an official driver’s license or ID card from a state for any official purpose unless the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security determines that the state meets these standards. Beginning October 2015, photo IDs (such as a valid driver’s license) issued by a state or territory not in compliance with the Real ID Act will not be accepted as identification to enter federal buildings. Visitors from these states/territories will need to provide alternative proof of identification (such as a valid passport) to gain entrance into federal buildings. The current list of states from which a federal agency may accept driver’s licenses for an official purpose is found at http://www.dhs.gov/real-id-enforcement-brief.

We recommend that confirmed registrants arrive reasonably early, but no earlier than 45 minutes prior to the start of the meeting, to allow additional time to clear security. Security measures include the following:
• Presentation of a government-issued photographic identification to the Federal Protective Service or Guard Service personnel.
• Inspection, via metal detector or other applicable means, of all persons entering the building. We note that all items brought into HHH Building, whether personal or for the purpose of presentation or to support a presentation, are subject to inspection.

We cannot assume responsibility for coordinating the receipt, transfer, transport, storage, set up, safety, or timely arrival of any personal belongings or items used for presentation or to support a presentation.

Note: Individuals who are not registered in advance will not be permitted to enter the building and will be unable to attend the meeting.

IV. Collection of Information

This document does not impose information collection requirements, that is, reporting, recordkeeping, or third-party disclosure requirements. Consequently, there is no need for review by the Office of Management and Budget under the authority of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Authority: Sec. 1114(f) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1314(f)), sec. 222 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 217a), and sec. 10(a) of Pub. L. 92–463 (5 U.S.C. App. 2, sec. 10(a) and 41 CFR part 102–3).

Dated: June 21, 2019.

Seema Verma,
Administrator Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

[FR Doc. 2019–13658 Filed 6–26–19; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4120–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Submission for OMB Review; Behavioral Interventions To Advance Self-Sufficiency Next Generation (BIAS–NG) (0970–0502)

AGENCY: Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation; Administration for Children and Families; HHS.

ACTION: Request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE) in the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) requests Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval to modify the previously approved pilot generic clearance (0970–0502) to collect data as part of rapid cycle testing and evaluation, in order to inform the design of interventions informed by behavioral science and to better understand the mechanisms and effects of such interventions. Interventions have been and will continue to be developed in the program area domains of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and child welfare, and this revision