DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Meeting of the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health, Subcommitteee for Dose Reconstruction Review, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

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

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following meeting for the Subcommittee for Dose Reconstruction Review of the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (ABRWH or the Advisory Board). This meeting is open to the public, but without a public comment period. The public is welcome to submit written comments in advance of the meeting, to the contact person below.

DATES: The meeting will be held on June 4, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., EDT.

ADDRESS: You may submit comments by mail to: Rashan Roberts, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, 1090 Tusculum Avenue, MS C–24, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226.

Meeting Information: Audio Conference Call via FTS Conferencing. The USA toll-free dial-in number is 1–866–659–0537; the pass code is 9933701.

Written comments received in advance of the meeting will be included in the official record of the meeting. The public is also welcomed to listen to the meeting by joining the audio conference (information below). The audio conference line has 150 ports for callers.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rashan Roberts, Ph.D., Designated Federal Officer, National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1090 Tusculum Avenue, Mailstop C–24, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226, telephone: (513) 533–6800, toll free 1(800) 232–4636, email: ocas@cdc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The Advisory Board was established under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 to advise the President on a variety of policy and technical functions required to implement and effectively manage the new compensation program. Key functions of the Advisory Board include providing advice on the development of probability of causation guidelines that have been promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as a final rule; advice on methods of dose reconstruction, which have also been promulgated by HHS as a final rule; advice on the scientific validity and quality of dose estimation and reconstruction efforts being performed for purposes of the compensation program; and advice on petitions to add classes of workers to the Special Exposure Cohort (SEC). In December 2000, the President delegated responsibility for funding, staffing, and operating the Advisory Board to HHS, which subsequently delegated this authority to CDC. NIOSH implements this responsibility for CDC.

The charter was issued on August 3, 2001, renewed at appropriate intervals, and rechartered under Executive Order 14109 on March 22, 2024. Unless continued by the President the Board will terminate on September 30, 2025, consistent with E.O. 14109 of September 29, 2023.

Purpose: The Advisory Board is charged with (a) providing advice to the Secretary, HHS, on the development of guidelines under Executive Order 13179; (b) providing advice to the Secretary, HHS, on the scientific validity and quality of dose reconstruction efforts performed for this program; and (c) upon request by the (DOE) facility who were exposed to radiation but for whom it is not feasible to estimate their radiation dose, and on whether there is reasonable likelihood that such radiation doses may have endangered the health of members of this class. SDDR is responsible for overseeing, tracking, and participating in the reviews of all procedures used in the dose reconstruction process by the NIOSH Division of Compensation Analysis and Support (DCAS) and its dose reconstruction contractor (Oak Ridge Associated Universities—ORAU).

Matters to be Considered: The agenda will include discussions on the following: 1. Issues Resolution from Set 31. Facilities that may be covered include: Feed Materials Production Center (FMPC), General Atomics, General Electric Vallecitos, General Steel Industries (South Plant), Hanford, Idaho National Laboratory, Kansas City Plant, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Metals and Controls Corp., Oak Ridge Gaseous Diffusion Plant (K–25), Oak Ridge National Laboratory (X–10), Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Pantex Plant, Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Rocky Flats Plant, Sandia National Laboratories, Savannah River Site, and Y–12 Plant; 2. Issues Resolution: Tab 585 from Set 29 (Pantex); 3. Report and further discussion on changes to selection criteria. Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

The Director, Office of Strategic Business Initiatives, Office of the Chief Operating Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has been delegated the authority to sign Federal Register notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities, for both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Kalwant Smagh,
Director, Office of Strategic Business Initiatives, Office of the Chief Operating Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
The Advisory Council for the Elimination of Tuberculosis (ACET) provides advice and recommendations regarding the elimination of tuberculosis (TB) to the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); the Assistant Secretary for Health, HHS; and the Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). ACET (a) makes recommendations on policies, strategies, objectives, and priorities; (b) addresses development and application of new technologies; (c) provides guidance and review of CDC’s TB prevention research portfolio and program priorities; and (d) reviews the extent to which progress has been made toward eliminating TB.

Nominations are sought for persons who have expertise and qualifications necessary to contribute to the accomplishment of the objectives of ACET. Nominees will be selected on the basis of their expertise in public health, epidemiology, immunology, infectious diseases, pulmonary disease, pediatrics, tuberculosis, microbiology, or preventive health care delivery. Federal employees will not be considered for membership. Members may be invited to serve for up to four-year terms. Selection of members is based on candidates’ qualifications to contribute to the accomplishment of ACET objectives.

HHS policy stipulates that committee membership be balanced in terms of points of view represented and the committee’s function. Appointments shall be made without discrimination on the basis of age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, HIV status, disability, and cultural, religious, or socioeconomic status. Nominees must be U.S. citizens and cannot be full-time employees of the U.S. Government. Current participation on Federal workgroups or prior experience serving on a Federal advisory committee does not disqualify a candidate; however, HHS policy is to avoid excessive individual service on advisory committees and multiple committee memberships. Committee members are Special Government Employees, requiring the filing of financial disclosure reports at the beginning of and annually during their terms. CDC reviews potential individuals for ACET membership each year and provides a slate of nominees for consideration to the Secretary of HHS for final selection. HHS notifies selected candidates of their appointment near the start of the term in July 2025, or as soon as the HHS selection process is completed. Note that the need for different expertise varies from year to year and a candidate who is not selected in one year may be reconsidered in a subsequent year.

Candidates should submit the following items:

- Current curriculum vitae, including complete contact information (telephone number, mailing address, and email address)
- At least one letter of recommendation from person(s) not employed by HHS. Candidates may submit letter(s) from current HHS employees if they wish, but at least one letter must be submitted by a person not employed by an HHS agency (e.g., CDC, National Institutes of Health, Food and Drug Administration).

Nominations may be submitted by the candidate or by the person/organization recommending the candidate. CDC will collect and retain nominations received for up to two years to create a pool of potential ACET nominees. When a vacancy occurs, CDC will review nominations and may contact nominees at that time.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

CMS 3453–FN

Medicare Program; Application by the Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC) for Continued CMS Approval of Its Home Infusion Therapy (HIT) Accreditation Program

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

ACTION: Final Notice.

SUMMARY: This final notice announces our decision to approve the Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC) for continued recognition as a national accrediting organization that accredits suppliers of home infusion therapy (HIT) services that wish to participate in the Medicare or Medicaid programs.

DATES: The approval announced in this final notice is effective April 23, 2024, through April 23, 2030.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shannon Freeland, (410) 786–4348, shannon.freeland@cms.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Home infusion therapy (HIT) is a treatment option for Medicare beneficiaries with a wide range of acute and chronic conditions. Section 5012 of the 21st Century Cures Act (Pub. L. 114–255, enacted December 13, 2016) added section 1861(iii) to the Social Security Act (the Act), establishing a new Medicare benefit for HIT services. Section 1861(iii)(1) of the Act defines “home infusion therapy” as professional services, including nursing services; training and education not otherwise covered under the Durable Medical Equipment (DME) benefit; remote monitoring; and other monitoring services. Home infusion therapy must be furnished by a qualified HIT supplier and furnished in the individual’s home. Sections 1861(iii)(A) and (B) of the Act require that the individual (patient) must:

- Be under the care of an applicable provider (that is, physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant); and
- Have a plan of care established and periodically reviewed by a physician in coordination with the furnishing of home infusion drugs under Part B, which prescribes the type, amount, and duration of infusion therapy services that are to be furnished.