DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[60 Day–01–26]

Proposed Data Collections Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects. To request more information on the proposed projects or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, call the CDC Reports Clearance Officer on (404) 639–7090.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques for other forms of information technology. Send comments to Anne O'Connor, CDC Assistant Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road, MS–D24, Atlanta, GA 30333. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Proposed Project

Model Performance Evaluation Program for Retroviral and AIDS-Related Testing—Extension—OMB No. 0920–0274 Public Health Practice Program Office (PHPPO), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Model Performance Evaluation Program (MPEP) currently assesses the performance of laboratories that test for human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV–1) antibody, human T-lymphotropic virus types I and II (HTLV–I/II) antibody, perform CD4 T-cell testing or T-lymphocyte immunophenotyping (TLI) by flow cytometry or alternate methods, perform HIV–1 ribonucleic acid (RNA) determinations (viral load), and test for HIV–1 p24 antigen through the use of mailed sample panels. The CDC MPEP is proposing to use annual data collection documents to gain updated information on the characteristics of testing laboratories and their testing practices.

Two data collection instruments, or survey questionnaires will be used. The first data collection instrument will be concerned with laboratories that perform HIV–1 antibody (Ab) testing, HTLV–I/II Ab testing, HIV–1 viral RNA determinations, and HIV–1 p24 antigen (Ag) testing. Laboratories enrolled in the MPEP will be mailed a survey questionnaire and be asked to complete the sections pertinent to their laboratory's testing. The survey instrument will collect demographic information related to laboratory type, primary purpose for testing, types of specimens tested, minimum education requirements of testing personnel, laboratory director, and laboratory supervisor, and training required of testing personnel. The demographic section will be followed by more specific sections related directly to HIV–1 Ab testing, HTLV–I/II Ab testing, HIV–1 RNA, and HIV–1 p24 Ag testing. Included in the latter sections will be questions related to the types of tests performed, the algorithm of testing, how test results are interpreted, how results are reported, how specimens may be rejected for testing, if some testing is referred to other laboratories, and what quality control and quality assurance procedures are conducted by the laboratory. Similarly, the TLI survey questionnaire will also collect demographic information about each laboratory, as well as, the type(s) of flow cytometer used, educational and training requirements of testing personnel, the types of monoclonal antibodies used in testing, how specimens are received, prepared, and stored, how test results are recorded and reported to the test requestor, and what quality control and quality assurance procedures are practiced.

Information collected through the use of these instruments will enable CDC to determine if laboratories are conforming to published recommendations and guidelines, whether education and training requirements of testing personnel are conforming to current legislative requirements, and whether problems in testing can be identified through the collection of information. Information collected through the survey instruments will then be compared statistically with the performance evaluation results reported by the enrolled laboratories to determine if characteristics of laboratories that perform well can be distinguished from laboratories not performing as well. Upon enrolling in the MPEP, participants are assigned an MPEP number used to report testing results and survey questionnaire responses allowing the individual responses of each laboratory participant to be treated in confidence. When participants respond to the surveys by sending CDC completed questionnaires, the collected information is developed into aggregate reports. A copy of the completed report is provided to each participating laboratory. Other than their time, there will be no cost to the respondents.

Respondents	No. of respondents	No. of respondents per response	Average burden per response (in hrs)	Total burden (in hrs)
MPEP Enrollment Form	100	1	6/60	10
Retroviral Survey	1,000	1	30/60	500
TLI Survey	350	1	30/60	175
Total				685

Dated: March 8, 2001.

Charles Gollmar,

Acting Associate Director for Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

[Document Identifier: HCFA–R–0280]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

Type of Information Request: Extension of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Medigap Compare; *HCFA Form Number*: HCFA-R–0280 (OMB approval #: 0938–0767); *Use*: HCFA electronically collects plan-specific Medigap data, including but not limited to premiums charged and additional benefits offered, from each insurer offering Medigap plans and provides the data on www.medicare.gov to assist beneficiaries in obtaining accurate information on all their health care coverage options; *Frequency*: Annually, semi-annually; *Affected Public*: Business or other for-profit, Federal Government, State, Local, or Tribal Government, Not-for-profit institutions; *Number of Respondents:* 300; *Total Annual Responses:* 450; *Total Annual Burden Hours*: 75.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access HCFA's Web Site address at http://www.hcfa.gov/regs/prdact95.htm, or E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and HCFA document identifier, to Paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786–1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 60 days of this notice directly to the HCFA Paperwork Clearance Officer designated at the following address: HCFA, Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards, Attention: Julie Brown, HCFA–R–280, Room N2–14–26, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244–1850.

Dated: March 6, 2001.

John P. Burke III,

Reports Clearance Officer, Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.

[FR Doc. 01–6385 Filed 3–14–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120–03–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

[HCFA–10022]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration, HHS.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

Type of Information Collection Request: New collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Medicare Beneficiary Customer Service Survey; *Form No.:* HCFA–10022 (OMB# 0938–NEW); *Use:* The survey of Medicare beneficiaries will attempt to obtain information regarding beneficiary expectations of customer service from Medicare. The results of the survey will help HCFA, the agency the administers Medicare, to set standards for customer service and to be able to measure appropriate performance areas based on feedback from beneficiaries on what is important aspects of customer service; *Frequency:* Once; *Affected Public:* Individuals or households, no-for-profit institutions, business or other for-profit; *Number of Respondents:* 1,500; *Total Annual Responses:* 1,500; *Total Annual Hours:* 500. To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access HCFA's Web Site address at *http://www.hcfa.gov/regs/prdact95.htm*, or E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and HCFA document identifier, to Paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786–1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 30 days of this notice directly to the OMB desk officer: OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, Attention: Wendy Taylor, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Dated: February 27, 2001.

John P. Burke III,

HCFA Reports Clearance Officer, HCFA Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.

[FR Doc. 01–6435 Filed 3–14–01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

[Document Identifier: HCFA–R–0260]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration, HHS.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the