

*Location:* Cambridge, Massachusetts.  
*Job Titles and/or Job Duties:* All Atomic Weapons Employer employees.  
*Period of Employment:* August 13, 1942 through December 31, 1945; and  
*Job Titles and/or Job Duties:* All employees of the Department of Energy (DOE), its predecessor agencies, and DOE contractors or subcontractors, who worked in the Hood Building.  
*Period of Employment:* January 13, 1946 through December 31, 1963.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Larry Elliott, Director, Office of Compensation Analysis and Support, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), 4676 Columbia Parkway, MS C-46, Cincinnati, OH 45226, Telephone 513-533-6800 (this is not a toll-free number). Information requests can also be submitted by e-mail to [OCAS@CDC.GOV](mailto:OCAS@CDC.GOV).

Dated: November 30, 2007.

**John Howard,**

*Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.*

[FR Doc. E7-23748 Filed 12-5-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4163-19-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; Decision To Evaluate a Petition To Designate a Class of Employees at SAM Laboratories, Columbia University, New York, New York, To Be Included in the Special Exposure Cohort**

**AGENCY:** National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) gives notice as required by 42 CFR 83.12(e) of a decision to evaluate a petition to designate a class of employees at SAM Laboratories, Columbia University, New York, New York, to be included in the Special Exposure Cohort under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000. The initial proposed definition for the class being evaluated, subject to revision as warranted by the evaluation, is as follows:

*Facility:* SAM Laboratories, Columbia University.

*Location:* New York, New York.

*Job Titles and/or Job Duties:* All workers.

*Period of Employment:* January 1, 1942 through December 31, 1947.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Larry Elliott, Director, Office of Compensation Analysis and Support, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), 4676 Columbia Parkway, MS C-46, Cincinnati, OH 45226, Telephone 513-533-6800 (this is not a toll-free number). Information requests can also be submitted by e-mail to [OCAS@CDC.GOV](mailto:OCAS@CDC.GOV).

Dated: November 30, 2007.

**John Howard,**

*Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.*

[FR Doc. E7-23704 Filed 12-5-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4163-19-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality**

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection: Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Department of Health and Human Services.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the intention of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to request that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approve the proposed information collection project "Voluntary Questionnaire and Data Collection Testing to Pretest Home Health Care CAHPS Questions and Methodology." This activity is being conducted under AHRQ's generic pre-testing clearance OMB #0935-0125. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. § 3506(c)(2)(A)), AHRQ invites the public to comment on this proposed information collection.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by January 7, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on this notice should be submitted electronically to both AHRQ and to OMB. Comments should be submitted to Doris Lefkowitz, Reports Clearance Officer, AHRQ at [doris.lefkowitz@ahrq.hhs.gov](mailto:doris.lefkowitz@ahrq.hhs.gov) and to AHRQ's OMB Desk Officer by fax at (202) 395-6974 (attention: AHRQ'S desk officer) or by e-mail at [OIRA\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov) (attention: AHRQ's desk officer). Copies of the proposed collection plans, data collection instruments and specific details on the estimated burden can be obtained from AHRQ's Reports Clearance Officer.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Doris Lefkowitz, AHRQ, Reports Clearance Officer, (301) 427-1477.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

The Consumer Assessment of Health Plans Survey (CAHPS) program was initiated in 1995 to develop a survey and report on consumers' perspectives on the quality of their health plans. Since that time the CAHPS program, in partnership with CMS and others, has expanded its scope and developed surveys and reports regarding patient assessments of care received from individual clinicians, group practices, in-center hemodialysis services, nursing homes and hospitals. Now, CMS has asked the CAHPS team to develop a survey to obtain the consumer's perspective on home health care and services.

One of the top priorities of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services is to increase the transparency in healthcare by providing quality and cost information to the public. A critical component missing from the current measurement set for home health agencies is information from the consumer perspective on the quality of care provided. The information collection proposed here will be a field test of a preliminary instrument designed to obtain consumer assessments of home health agency care.

**Methods of Collection**

This field test will use a two stage sampling approach. The first stage is a convenience sample of Medicaid and/or Medicare certified Home Health Agencies (HHA) and the second stage is a probability sample of each selected HHA's eligible patients. Thirty-six HHA's across multiple states and home health agency operators will be recruited to participate. The sample of HHAs will vary by size, financial ownership and organizational type (chain or independent). AHRQ anticipates sampling an average of 138 patients per agency.

Each selected patient will be mailed the questionnaire and cover letter. To maximize response rates, follow up activities will include an additional request for participation by mail and by phone call. Individuals contacted will be assured of the confidentiality of their replies under Section 934(c) of the Public Health Service Act.

**Estimated Annual Respondent Burden**

The survey will be distributed to 4,968 patients with a projected completion rate of 40 percent for a total of 1,987 returned surveys. Responses are estimated at 20 minutes per survey.

Therefore the estimate of total burden of the survey is 663 hours.

#### EXHIBIT 1.—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Hours per response	Total burden hours
Mail survey with mail and telephone follow up .....	1,987	1	20/60	663
Total .....	1,987	1	20/60	663

#### EXHIBIT 2.—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST BURDEN

Form name	Number of respondents	Total burden hours	Average hourly wage rate*	Total cost burden
Mail survey with mail and telephone follow up .....	1,987	663	\$20.00	\$13,260
Total .....	1,987	663	20.00	13,260

\*Based upon the average wages, "National Compensation Survey: Occupational Wages in the United States, June 2006," U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. (<http://www.bls.gov/ncs/home.htm>. Last viewed August 27, 2007.)

#### Estimated Annual Costs to the Federal Government

The total cost to the Government for developing this survey is approximately \$880,000. The contracted costs include approximately \$600,000 for survey development, \$110,000 for data collection and \$90,000 for analysis of field test results. Total costs also include \$80,000 in AHRQ staff costs.

#### Request for Comments

In accordance with the above-cited Paperwork Reduction Act legislation, comments on AHRQ's Information collection are requested with regard to any of the following: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of AHRQ healthcare research and healthcare dissemination functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of AHRQ's estimate of burden (including the hours and costs) 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 upon the respondents including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the Agency's subsequent request for OMB approval of the proposed information collection. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 29, 2007.

**Carolyn M. Clancy,**

*Director.*

[FR Doc. 07-5949 Filed 12-5-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4160-90-M**

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Department of Health and Human Services.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the intention of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to request that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) allow the renewal of the generic information collection project: "Questionnaire and Data Collection Testing, Evaluation, and Research for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality." In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), AHRQ invites the public to comment on this proposed information collection.

This proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** on August 15, 2007 and allowed 60 days for public comment. No comments were received. A 30-day **Federal Register** notice was published on October 19, 2007 to allow an additional 30 days for public comment. No comments were received. However,

changes to the estimated annual respondent burden hours and the methodologies that will be used for the data collection require an additional 30 days for public comment.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by January 7, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be submitted to: AHRQ's OMB Desk Officer by fax at (202) 395-6974 (attention: AHRQ's desk officer) or by e-mail at [OIRA\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov) (attention: AHRQ's desk officer).

Copies of the proposed collection plans, data collection instruments, and specific details on the estimated burden can be obtained from AHRQ's Reports Clearance Officer.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Doris Lefkowitz, AHRQ, Reports Clearance Officer, (301) 427-1477.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Proposed Project

"Questionnaire and Data Collection Testing, Evaluation, and Research for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality."

AHRQ plans to employ the latest techniques to improve its current data collections by developing new surveys, or information collection tools and methods, and by revising existing collections in anticipation of, or in response to, changes in the healthcare field, for a three-year period. The clearance request is limited to research on information collection tools and methods, and related reports and does not extend to the collection of data for public release.

A generic clearance for this work allows AHRQ to draft and test