

impact on the operations of a substantial number of small rural hospitals.

Section 202 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA) also requires that agencies assess anticipated costs and benefits before issuing any rule whose mandates require spending in any 1 year of \$100 million in 1995 dollars, updated annually for inflation. In 2017, that threshold is approximately \$148 million. The Agency has determined that there will be minimal impact from the costs of this notice, as the threshold is not met under the UMRA.

Executive Order 13132 establishes certain requirements that an agency must meet when it promulgates a proposed rule (and subsequent final rule) that imposes substantial direct requirement costs on state and local governments, preempts state law, or otherwise has federalism implications. Since this notice does not impose substantial direct costs on state or local governments, the requirements of Executive Order 13132 are not applicable.

Executive Order 13771, titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs," was issued on January 30, 2017 (82 FR 9339, February 3, 2017). It has been determined that this notice is a transfer notice that does not impose more than de minimis costs and thus is not a regulatory action for the purposes of E.O. 13771.

In accordance with the provisions of Executive Order 12866, this notice was reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

Dated: November 28, 2017.

Seema Verma,
Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

[FR Doc. 2017-25972 Filed 12-1-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-1684-N]

Medicare Program; Town Hall Meeting on the FY 2019 Applications for New Medical Services and Technologies Add-On Payments

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

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a Town Hall meeting in accordance with section 1886(d)(5)(K)(viii) of the Social Security Act (the Act) to discuss fiscal

year (FY) 2019 applications for add-on payments for new medical services and technologies under the hospital inpatient prospective payment system (IPPS). Interested parties are invited to this meeting to present their comments, recommendations, and data regarding whether the FY 2019 new medical services and technologies applications meet the substantial clinical improvement criterion.

DATES:

Meeting Date: The Town Hall Meeting announced in this notice will be held on Tuesday, February 13, 2018. The Town Hall Meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (e.s.t.) and check-in will begin at 8:30 a.m. e.s.t.

Deadline for Registration for Participants (not Presenting) at the Town Hall Meeting: The deadline to register to attend the Town Hall Meeting is 5:00 p.m., e.s.t. on Wednesday, February 7, 2018.

Deadline for Requesting Special Accommodations: The deadline to submit requests for special accommodations is 5:00 p.m., e.s.t. on Tuesday, January 16, 2018.

Deadline for Registration of Presenters at the Town Hall Meeting: The deadline to register to present at the Town Hall Meeting is 5:00 p.m., e.s.t. on Monday, January 29, 2018.

Deadline for Submission of Agenda Item(s) or Written Comments for the Town Hall Meeting: Written comments and agenda items for discussion at the Town Hall Meeting, including agenda items by presenters, must be received by 5:00 p.m. e.s.t. on Monday, January 29, 2018.

Deadline for Submission of Written Comments after the Town Hall Meeting for consideration in the FY 2019 IPPS proposed rule: Individuals may submit written comments after the Town Hall Meeting, as specified in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice, on whether the service or technology represents a substantial clinical improvement. These comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. e.s.t. on Friday, February 23, 2018, for consideration in the FY 2019 IPPS proposed rule.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting Location: The Town Hall Meeting will be held in the main Auditorium in the central building of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services located at 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850.

In addition, we are providing two alternatives to attending the meeting in person—(1) there will be an open toll-free phone line to call into the Town Hall Meeting; or (2) participants may view and participate in the Town Hall

Meeting via live stream technology or webinar. These options are discussed in section II.B. of this notice.

Registration and Special Accommodations: Individuals wishing to participate in the meeting must register by following the on-line registration instructions located in section III. of this notice or by contacting staff listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice. Individuals who need special accommodations should contact staff listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

Submission of Agenda Item(s) or Written Comments for the Town Hall Meeting: Each presenter must submit an agenda item(s) regarding whether a FY 2019 application meets the substantial clinical improvement criterion. Agenda items, written comments, questions or other statements must not exceed three single-spaced typed pages and may be sent via email to newtech@cms.hhs.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michelle Joshua, (410) 786-6050, michelle.joshua@cms.hhs.gov; or Michael Treitel, (410) 786-4552, michael.treitel@cms.hhs.gov.

Alternatively, you may forward your requests via email to newtech@cms.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background on the Add-On Payments for New Medical Services and Technologies Under the IPPS

Sections 1886(d)(5)(K) and (L) of the Social Security Act (the Act) require the Secretary to establish a process of identifying and ensuring adequate payments to acute care hospitals for new medical services and technologies under Medicare. Effective for discharges beginning on or after October 1, 2001, section 1886(d)(5)(K)(i) of the Act requires the Secretary to establish (after notice and opportunity for public comment) a mechanism to recognize the costs of new services and technologies under the hospital inpatient prospective payment system (IPPS). In addition, section 1886(d)(5)(K)(vi) of the Act specifies that a medical service or technology will be considered "new" if it meets criteria established by the Secretary (after notice and opportunity for public comment). (See the fiscal year (FY) 2002 IPPS proposed rule (66 FR 22693, May 4, 2001) and final rule (66 FR 46912, September 7, 2001) for a more detailed discussion.)

In the September 7, 2001 final rule (66 FR 46914), we noted that we evaluated a request for special payment for a new medical service or technology against

the following criteria in order to determine if the new technology meets the substantial clinical improvement requirement:

- The device offers a treatment option for a patient population unresponsive to, or ineligible for, currently available treatments.

- The device offers the ability to diagnose a medical condition in a patient population where that medical condition is currently undetectable or offers the ability to diagnose a medical condition earlier in a patient population than allowed by currently available methods. There must also be evidence that use of the device to make a diagnosis affects the management of the patient.

- Use of the device significantly improves clinical outcomes for a patient population as compared to currently available treatments. Some examples of outcomes that are frequently evaluated in studies of medical devices are the following:

- ++ Reduced mortality rate with use of the device.

- ++ Reduced rate of device-related complications.

- ++ Decreased rate of subsequent diagnostic or therapeutic interventions (for example, due to reduced rate of recurrence of the disease process).

- ++ Decreased number of future hospitalizations or physician visits.

- ++ More rapid beneficial resolution of the disease process treatment because of the use of the device.

- ++ Decreased pain, bleeding or other quantifiable symptoms.

- ++ Reduced recovery time.

In addition, we indicated that the requester is required to submit evidence that the technology meets one or more of these criteria.

Section 1886(d)(5)(K)(viii) of the Act, as added by section 503 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA), requires that as part of the process for evaluating new medical services and technology applications, the Secretary shall do the following:

- Provide for public input regarding whether a new service or technology represents an advance in medical technology that substantially improves the diagnosis or treatment of Medicare beneficiaries before publication of a proposed rule.

- Make public and periodically update a list of all the services and technologies for which an application is pending.

- Accept comments, recommendations, and data from the public regarding whether the service or

technology represents a substantial improvement.

- Provide for a meeting at which organizations representing hospitals, physicians, manufacturers and any other interested party may present comments, recommendations, and data to the clinical staff of CMS as to whether the service or technology represents a substantial improvement before publication of a proposed rule.

The opinions and presentations provided during this meeting will assist us as we evaluate the new medical services and technology applications for FY 2019. In addition, they will help us to evaluate our policy on the IPPS new technology add-on payment process before the publication of the FY 2019 IPPS proposed rule.

II. Town Hall Meeting Format and Conference Call/Live Streaming Information

A. Format of the Town Hall Meeting

As noted in section I. of this notice, we are required to provide for a meeting at which organizations representing hospitals, physicians, manufacturers and any other interested party may present comments, recommendations, and data to the clinical staff of CMS concerning whether the service or technology represents a substantial clinical improvement. This meeting will allow for a discussion of the substantial clinical improvement criteria for each of the FY 2019 new medical services and technology add-on payment applications. Information regarding the applications can be found on our Web site at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/AcuteInpatientPPS/newtech.html>.

The majority of the meeting will be reserved for presentations of comments, recommendations, and data from registered presenters. The time for each presenter's comments will be approximately 10 to 15 minutes and will be based on the number of registered presenters. Individuals who would like to present must register and submit their agenda item(s) via email to newtech@cms.hhs.gov by the date specified in the **DATES** section of this notice.

In addition, written comments will also be accepted and presented at the meeting if they are received via email to newtech@cms.hhs.gov by the date specified in the **DATES** section of this notice. Written comments may also be submitted after the meeting for our consideration. If the comments are to be considered before the publication of the FY 2019 IPPS proposed rule, the comments must be received via email to

newtech@cms.hhs.gov by the date specified in the **DATES** section of this notice.

B. Conference Call, Live Streaming, and Webinar Information

For participants who cannot attend the Town Hall Meeting in person, an open toll-free phone line, (877) 267-1577, has been made available. The Meeting Place meeting ID is 995 504 800.

Also, there will be an option to view and participate in the Town Hall Meeting via live streaming technology or webinar. Information on the option to participate via live streaming technology or webinar will be provided through an upcoming listserv notice and posted on the New Technology Web site at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/AcuteInpatientPPS/newtech.html>. Continue to check the Web site for updates.

C. Disclaimer

We cannot guarantee reliability for live streaming technology or a webinar.

III. Registration Instructions

The Division of Acute Care in CMS is coordinating the meeting registration for the Town Hall Meeting on substantial clinical improvement. While there is no registration fee, individuals planning to attend the Town Hall Meeting in person must register to attend.

Registration may be completed online at the following web address: <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/AcuteInpatientPPS/newtech.html>. Select the link at the bottom of the page "Register to Attend the New Technology Town Hall Meeting". After completing the registration, online registrants should print the confirmation page(s) and bring it with them to the meeting.

If you are unable to register on-line, you may register by sending an email to newtech@cms.hhs.gov. Please include your name, address, telephone number, email address and fax number. If seating capacity has been reached, you will be notified that the meeting has reached capacity.

IV. Security, Building, and Parking Guidelines

Because this meeting will be located on Federal property, for security reasons, any persons wishing to attend the meeting must register by the date specified in the **DATES** section of this notice. Please allow sufficient time to go through the security checkpoints. If you are attending the Town Hall Meeting in person, we suggest that you arrive at

7500 Security Boulevard no later than 8:30 a.m. e.s.t. so that you will be able to arrive promptly for the meeting.

Security measures include the following:

- Presentation of government-issued photographic identification to the Federal Protective Service or Guard Service personnel.

Note: The REAL ID Act established minimum security standards for license issuance and production and prohibits Federal agencies from accepting for certain purposes driver's licenses and identification cards from states not meeting the Act's minimum standards. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is currently reviewing extension requests from states with extensions that expired on October 10, 2017. DHS will update their Web page as these reviews are completed and new extensions are granted. We encourage the public to visit the DHS Web site at <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id> prior to the new technology town hall meeting for updated information.

- CMS policy requires that every foreign national (defined by the Department of Homeland Security as "an individual who is a citizen of any country other than the United States") is assigned a host (in accordance with the Department Foreign Visitor Management Policy, Appendix C, Guidelines for Hosts and Escorts). The host/hosting official is required to inform the Division of Physical Security and Strategic Information at least 12 business days in advance of any visit by a foreign national. Foreign nationals will be required to produce a valid passport at the time of entry.

Attendees that are foreign nationals need to identify themselves as such, and make a request for a special accommodation. Foreign national visitors are defined as non-U.S. citizens, and non-lawful permanent residents, non-residents aliens or non-green-card holders. Foreign nationals must provide the following information for security clearance to staff listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice by the date specified in the **DATES** section of this notice:

- ++ Visitor's full name (as it appears on passport).
- ++ Gender.
- ++ Country of origin and citizenship.
- ++ Biographical data and related information.

- ++ Date of birth.
- ++ Place of birth.
- ++ Passport number.
- ++ Passport issue date.
- ++ Passport expiration date.
- ++ Visa Type.

- Dates of visits
- Company Name
- Position/Title

- Inspection of vehicle's interior and exterior (this includes engine and trunk inspection) at the entrance to the grounds. Parking permits and instructions will be issued after the vehicle inspection.

- Inspection, via metal detector or other applicable means of all persons entering the building. We note that all items brought to CMS, 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 in person. The public may not enter the building earlier than 45 minutes prior to the convening of the meeting.

All visitors must be escorted in all areas other than the lower level lobby and cafeteria area and first floor auditorium and conference areas in the Central Building. Seating capacity is limited to the first 250 registrants.

Authority: Section 503 of Pub. L. 108–173.

Dated: November 28, 2017.

Seema Verma,

Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Proposed Information Collection Activity; Comment Request

Proposed Projects

Title: Grant Reviewer Recruitment Form.

OMB: 0970–0455.

Description: The Administration for Children and Families' Children's Bureau (CB) is responsible for administering the review of eligible grant applications submitted in response to funding opportunity announcements issued by CB. CB ensures that the objective review process is independent, efficient, effective, economical, and complies with the applicable statutes, regulations, and policies. Applications are reviewed by subject experts knowledgeable in child welfare and related fields. Review findings are advisory to CB; CB is responsible for making award decisions.

This announcement is a request for continued approval of the information collection system, the Reviewer Recruitment Module (RRM). CB uses a Web-based data collection form and database to gather critical reviewer information in drop down menu format for data such as: Degree, occupation, affiliations with organizations and institutions that serve special populations, and demographic information that may be voluntarily provided by a potential reviewer.

These data elements help CB find and select expert grant reviewers for objective review committees. The Web-based system permits reviewers to access and update their information at will and as needed. The RRM is accessible by the general public via <https://rrm.grantsolutions.gov/AgencyPortal/cb.aspx>.

Respondents: Generally, our reviewers are current or retired professionals with backgrounds in child welfare and related fields and in some instances current or former foster care parents or clients.

Annual Burden Estimates

Instrument	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Total burden hours
Reviewer Recruitment Module	500	1	.25	125