

Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS on April 24–26, 1996, at the Radisson Plaza Hotel, Alexandria, Virginia. The Services subcommittee of the Council will meet on Wednesday, April 24, from 9 am to 9 pm and the Research and Prevention subcommittees will meet on Wednesday, April 24 from 7 pm to 9 pm at the Radisson Plaza Hotel. The full meeting of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS will take place on Thursday, April 25 from 8:30 am to 5:15 pm, and Friday, April 26 from 9:00 pm to 3:30 pm at the Radisson Plaza Hotel at Mark Center, 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia. The meetings will be open to the public.

The purpose of the subcommittee meetings will be to finalize their recommendations and to develop a 6 month plan on how to accomplish these recommendations. The agenda of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS will include presentations from the Council's three subcommittees, Research, Services, and Prevention.

Jeff Levi, Deputy Director, Office of National AIDS Policy, 750 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503, Phone (202) 632–1090, FAX (202) 632–1096, will furnish the meeting agenda and roster of committee members upon request. Any individual who requires special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact Ms. Kimberly Farrell at (301) 986–4870 no later than April 19.

Dated: April 2, 1996.

Jeff Levi,
Deputy Director, Office of National AIDS Policy.

[FR Doc. 96–8932 Filed 4–9–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3195–01–M

Agency for Health Care Policy and Research General Reorganization; Statement of Organization, Functions, and Delegations of Authority

This notice amends the following portions of Part E and Part H of the Statement of Organization, Functions, and Delegations of Authority for the Department of Health and Human Services: Part E, as last amended at 60 FR 56605, November 9, 1995; and Part H, Chapter HP as last amended at 60 FR 37898, July 24, 1995. Changes are being made which: (1) designate the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) as an Operating Division reporting directly to the Secretary of Health and Human Services and (2) reflect organizational refinements which will enable the Agency to be more responsive to the evolving needs of the

health care system and a refocused government role. Changes are as follows:

1. Under Part E, add Chapter E (Agency for Health Care Policy and Research), as follows:

Chapter E—Agency for Health Care Policy and Research

Section E–00 Mission
Section E–10 Organization
Section E–20 Functions
Section E–30 Order of Succession
Section E–40 Delegations of Authority

Agency for Health Care Policy and Research

Section E–00. Mission. The Agency for Health Care Policy and Research provides national leadership and administration of a program to enhance the quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of health care services, and access to such services, through the establishment of a broad base of scientific research and through the promotion of improvements in clinical practice and in the organization, financing, and delivery of health care services. The AHCPR supports research, demonstrations, evaluations, and dissemination projects relating to: (1) The effectiveness, efficiency, and quality of health care services; (2) the outcomes of health care services and procedures; (3) clinical practice, including primary care and practice-oriented research; (4) health care technologies, facilities, and equipment; (5) health care costs, productivity, and market forces; (6) health promotion and disease prevention; (7) health statistics and epidemiology; (8) medical liability; (9) delivery of health services in rural areas; and (10) the health of low income groups, minority groups, the elderly, and other special populations.

Section E–10. Organization. The Agency for Health Care Policy and Research is under the direction of an Administrator who reports directly to the Secretary of Health and Human Services. The Agency consists of the following components:

- A. Immediate Office of the Administrator
- B. Office of Management
- C. Office of Planning and Evaluation
- D. Office of Policy Analysis
- E. Office of Scientific Affairs
- F. Office of the Forum for Quality and Effectiveness in Health Care
- G. Center for Cost and Financing Studies
- H. Center for Health Care Technology
- I. Center for Health Information Dissemination
- J. Center for Information Technology
- K. Center for Organization and Delivery Studies

L. Center for Outcomes and Effectiveness Research

M. Center for Primary Care Research

N. Center for Quality Measurement and Improvement

Section E–20. Functions. In carrying out these responsibilities, AHCPR engages in the following activities: (1) Supports, by means of grants and contracts with public and private entities, research, demonstration, and evaluation projects; (2) conducts economic and statistical analyses, research, demonstrations, and evaluations through the use of staff and facilities of the Agency; (3) administers and supports health services research training programs; (4) assists public and nonprofit private entities in meeting the costs of planning, establishing and operating centers for multidisciplinary health services quality and effectiveness research, evaluations, and demonstrations; (5) facilitates development of guidelines, standards, and parameters to enhance the quality and effectiveness of health care and disseminates them to health services providers, review organizations, health educational institutions, and consumers; (6) advises the Secretary and other PHS Agency Heads about findings of the Agency research programs and their potential implications for HHS programs; (7) facilitates linkages among existing data bases and the establishment of national data systems to support health services, technology, quality and effectiveness research; (8) in consultation with other PHS Agencies, coordinates health services and health care technology research, evaluations, and demonstrations undertaken by the Agency; (9) consults with public and private organizations and individuals to identify the critical issues and problems to be addressed through the Agency's research programs; (10) publishes and disseminates the findings and the data obtained in the course of research and evaluation, and in the development of guidelines, standards, review criteria, evaluations, and demonstrations supported or undertaken by the Agency; (11) undertakes programs to develop new and improved methods for making such research findings available to the medical community and for incorporating them into everyday medical practice; (12) provides technical assistance, advice, and consultation to organizations and individuals within and outside the Department engaged in or concerned with the results of health services, health care technology, health quality and effectiveness research, evaluations, and demonstrations; (13) advises the

Secretary on effectiveness of health care technologies and coverage thereof under Medicare and Medicaid as appropriate; (14) undertakes and supports research, demonstration projects and evaluations concerning rural health and underserved populations; and (15) supports and conducts patient outcome research.

Office of the Administrator (EA).

Directs the activities of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research to ensure the achievement of strategic objectives. Specifically: (1) Determines that Agency programs support Administration goals and objectives; (2) plans, directs, coordinates, and evaluates the administrative policies and procedures, the research and training programs, and the dissemination activities of the Agency; (3) manages the Equal Employment Opportunity programs; (4) maintains the scientific integrity of the research program and the staff; (5) establishes Agency program and budget priorities; (6) represents the Agency within the Public Health Service, at the highest levels of Government, and to the public; and (7) makes recommendations to the Secretary on Federal reimbursement programs with respect to health care technologies and health care policies and research.

Office of Management (EAA). Directs and coordinates Agency-wide administrative activities. Specifically: (1) Manages and coordinates the human resource activities of the Agency including personnel operations and the allocation of personnel resources; (2) provides organizational and management analysis, develops policies and procedures, and implements Agency management policies; (3) coordinates the Agency Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act and Privacy Act activities; (4) plans and directs financial management activities including budget formulation, presentation, and execution functions and supports the linking of the budget and planning process; (5) conducts all business management aspects of the review, negotiation, award and administration of Agency grants and contracts; (6) manages the analysis, selection, and implementation of the information resource management and telecommunication systems; and (7) provides Agency support services including the acquisition, management, and maintenance of supplies, equipment, and space.

Office of Planning and Evaluation (EAB). Directs and coordinates the strategic planning and program evaluation of the Agency. Specifically: (1) Directs and coordinates program

planning activities of the Agency and prepares the strategic plan; (2) plans and manages the program evaluation activities of the Agency including evaluations of dissemination, training, and research programs; (3) plans and coordinates Agency research activities that focus on special populations and initiatives, including minority health, women's health, and HIV; (4) manages and coordinates development and clearance of proposed regulations, reports, and program announcements; and (5) represents the Agency in meetings with other Public Health Service and Department planning and evaluation offices.

Office of Policy Analysis (EAC).

Provides support to the Administrator and unbiased technical assistance to the Public Health Service, the Department, and other public and private sector users of health services research. Specifically: (1) Reviews Agency research plans and programs to determine their relevance to current and emerging health policy issues; (2) provides unbiased analyses of significant health policy issues using relevant health services research, data, and information produced by the Agency and others; (3) synthesizes research findings on policy and program issues of concern to the Administrator; (4) conducts and supports special projects and studies to inform health policy; (5) develops and manages an extramural centers program designed to provide timely studies of immediate and emerging health policy issues; (6) coordinates the legislative activities of the Agency including the development of legislative proposals and analysis of health legislative initiatives; (7) provides support and management for the activities of the Agency's National Advisory Council; (8) maintains ongoing liaison with public and private sector producers and users of health services research; and (9) represents the Agency in meetings with components of the Public Health Service, the Department, and other government agencies and with private organizations on health policy issues.

Office of Scientific Affairs (EAE).

Directs the scientific review process for grants and contracts, the assignment of projects to Agency Centers, manages Agency research training programs, and evaluates the medical and scientific contribution of proposed and on-going research, demonstration, and evaluations. Specifically: (1) Directs the process for selecting, reviewing, and funding grants and reviewing contracts for scientific merit and program relevance; (2) assigns grant proposals to Centers for administrative action; (3)

manages the process for making funding decisions for grants; (4) directs Agency research training programs and implementation of the National Research Service Award authority; (5) manages the scientific integrity processes for the intramural and extramural programs of the Agency; and (6) represents the Agency in meetings with experts and organizations on issues related to the administration of the scientific program.

Office of the Forum for Quality and Effectiveness in Health Care (EB).

Arranges for the development and evaluation of clinical practice guidelines. Specifically: (1) Supports the development and evaluation of clinical practice guidelines dealing with the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of illness; (2) provides national leadership on guideline development and assessment of methodologies; (3) supports development of medical review criteria, performance measures, and standards of quality; (4) conducts and supports studies of the economic impact of Agency guidelines; and (5) represents the Agency in meetings with experts and organizations involved in producing, implementing, and evaluating clinical practice guidelines.

Center for Cost and Financing Studies (EC). Conducts and supports studies of the cost and financing of health care and develops data sets to support policy and behavioral research and analyses.

Specifically: (1) Conducts and manages research and analysis of trends and patterns of health expenditures, public and private insurance coverage, use of personal health services, health status, and cost effectiveness of care for the general population and subgroups of policy interest; (2) conducts and manages health sector surveys such as medical expenditure surveys; surveys of employers and other sources of insurance coverage and health benefits; and surveys of the use, cost, and financing of care for special populations; (3) collects, reorganizes, and analyzes administrative databases related to health use, status, cost and financing; (4) provides modeling and projections of health care use, status, expenditures, and payments for policy research; (5) conducts and supports statistical and methodological research on survey design, sampling and estimation techniques, and data quality; (6) conducts and supports surveys and research of institutional and community based long term care; (7) evaluates administrative data sets for intramural and extramural research including policy and methodological studies; and (8) builds research and data collection partnerships with the health care sector,

employers and foundations, and represents the Agency in meetings with Federal agencies and experts on health policy issues especially issues related to health expenditures and insurance, Federal and State health care programs.

Center for Health Care Technology (EE). Conducts and supports a comprehensive program of health care technology assessment. Specifically: (1) Manages and conducts studies of the safety, efficacy, effectiveness, and cost-effectiveness of health technologies; (2) prepares recommendations on whether specific technologies should be paid for by Federal programs that provide or reimburse for health services including recommendations that such payment be subject to specific conditions, requirements, or limitations; (3) maintains liaison with other public and private organizations and entities with regard to assessment strategies, priorities, and methodologies; and (4) represents the Agency in meeting with international and domestic experts and organizations concerned with health technology assessment.

Center for Health Information Dissemination (EF). Designs, develops, implements, and manages programs for disseminating the results of Agency activities. Specifically: (1) Conducts and supports research on the techniques of providing information to the health care industry, health care providers, consumers policy makers, researchers, and the media; (2) manages the editing, publication, and information distribution processes of the Agency; (3) provides the administrative support for reference services and the distribution of technical information to Agency staff; (4) manages the public affairs activities of the Agency, an Agency clearinghouse for responding to requests for information and technical assistance, and a consumer information program; (5) directs a user liaison program to provide health care research and policy findings to Federal, State and local public officials, providers, payers, business, and the health care industry; (6) evaluates the effectiveness of Agency dissemination strategies and implements changes indicated by such evaluation; and (7) represents the Agency in meetings with Department and Public Health Service representatives on press releases, media events, and publication clearance.

Center for Information Technology (EG). Conducts and supports studies of health information systems, computerized patient record systems, and medical decision analysis. Specifically: (1) Manages and conducts research, demonstrations, and evaluations of computerized health care

information systems; (2) directs studies of data standards, security, efficiency, and linkages; (3) directs studies of medical decision making and decision support systems; (4) directs studies of provider adoption and implementation of automated medical records, information, and decision systems; and (5) represents the Agency in meetings with international and domestic experts and organizations concerned with developing and using medical information systems.

Center for Organization and Delivery Studies (EH). Conducts, supports and manages studies of the structure, financing, organization, behavior, and performance of the health care system and providers within it. Specifically: (1) Conducts and manages quantitative and qualitative research on changes in the organizational, financial, and legal structure of the health care delivery system, particularly the move to managed care and integrated networks; (2) conducts and manages research on market forces, and regulatory, legal, and other factors driving these changes; (3) conducts and manages research on the changing continuum of care (acute, long-term, home, and community-based), and organizational issues (integration, care management, patient communication, and care for high-cost illnesses) in these systems; (4) conducts and manages research on organizational behavior and issues (leadership, governance, political culture, etc.) in the changing delivery system; (5) conducts and manages research on the impact of changing organizations and delivery systems on access, cost, quality, providers, and public health; and (6) builds research partnerships with the health care industry, employers and foundations, and represents the Agency in meetings with Federal agencies and experts on health policy issues related to the changing delivery system and its impact on access, quality and cost of care.

Centers for Outcomes and Effectiveness Research (EJ). Conducts and supports studies of the outcomes and effectiveness of diagnostic, therapeutic, and preventing health care services and procedures. Specifically: (1) Manages and conducts research, evaluations, and demonstrations of the effectiveness of clinical interventions in terms of patient outcomes; (2) directs an extramural research centers program on medical effectiveness and patient outcomes; (3) directs and supports a program of clinical research on the effectiveness of diagnostic and therapeutic approaches to illness; (4) manages and conducts research and related activities to improve methods

and measures for effectiveness research; and (5) represents the Agency in meetings with domestic and international experts and organizations concerned with medical effectiveness and outcomes research.

Center for Primary Care Research (EK). Conducts and supports studies on primary care, and clinical, preventive and public health policies and systems. Specifically: (1) Manages and conducts research on, and demonstrations and evaluations of, primary care settings and systems; (2) manages and conducts studies of rural health care services and systems; (3) directs studies of the care of special populations; (4) directs studies of the effectiveness of education, supply, and distribution of the health care workforce; and (5) represents the Agency in meetings with international and domestic experts and organizations concerned with primary care.

Center for Quality Measurement and Improvement (EL). Conducts and supports research on the measurement and improvement of the quality of health care. Specifically: (1) Conducts and supports research, demonstrations, and evaluations of the quality of health care; (2) designs, conducts, and supports consumer surveys to assess the quality of and satisfaction with health care services and systems; (3) develops and tests measures and methods for evaluating the quality of care; (4) provides technical assistance and gathers information on the use of quality measures and consumer information on the use of quality measures and consumer information and the resulting effects; and (5) represents the Agency in meetings with domestic and international experts and organizations concerned with measuring and evaluating the quality of care.

Section E-30. Order of Succession. During the absence or disability of the Administrator, or in the event of a vacancy in that office, the first official listed below who is available shall act as Administrator, except during planned periods of absence, when the Administrator may specify a different order of succession. The order of succession will be:

- (1) Deputy Administrator
- (2) Executive Officer
- (3) Director, Office of Policy Analysis
- (4) Director, Office of Planning and Evaluation
- (5) Director, Office of Scientific Affairs

Section E-40. Delegations of Authority. All delegations and redelegations of authority to officers and employees of the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research which were in effect immediately prior to the effective

date of this reorganization shall continue in effect pending further redelegation, provided they are consistent with this reorganization.

2. *Under Part H, after Chapter HN (National Institutes of Health), delete Chapter HP (Agency for Health Care Policy and Research) in its entirety.*

These changes are effective April 4, 1996.

Dated: April 4, 1996.

Clifton R. Gaus,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-8900 Filed 4-9-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-90-M

Agency for Health Care Policy and Research

Health Care Policy and Research Special Emphasis Panel Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C., Appendix 2) announcement is made of the following special emphasis panel scheduled to meet during the month of May 1996:

Name: Health Care Policy and Research Special Emphasis Panel.

Date and Time: May 7-9, 1996, 8 a.m.

Place: Parklawn Building, Conference Room N, Third Floor, B wing, Rockville, MD 20852.

Purpose: This Panel is charged with conducting the initial review of contract proposals requesting support for research and development of new technologies and methodologies which have the potential to succeed as commercial products submitted to the Small Business Innovation Research program.

Agenda: The meeting on May 7, will be devoted to reviewing and discussing contract proposals dealing with software for information capture related to health care. In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2 and 5 U.S.C., 552b(c)(6), it has been determined that this meeting will be closed because the discussions are likely to reveal personal information concerning individuals associated with the contract proposals. This information is exempt from mandatory disclosure.

Anyone wishing to obtain a roster of members or other relevant information should contact William Maas, D.D.C., Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, Suite 400, 2101 East Jefferson Street, Rockville, Maryland 20852, Telephone (301) 594-1449.

Agenda items for this meeting are subject to change as priorities dictate.

Dated: April 3, 1996.

Clifton R. Gaus,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-8901 Filed 4-9-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-90-M

Health Care Policy and Research Special Emphasis Panel Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C., Appendix 2) announcement is made of the following special emphasis panel scheduled to meet during the month of May 1996:

Name: Health Care Policy and Research Special Emphasis Panel.

Date and Time: May 20-23, 1996, 8 a.m.

Place: Parklawn Building, Conference Room N, Third Floor, B wing, Rockville, MD 20852.

Purpose: This Panel is charged with conducting the initial review of contract proposals requesting support for research and development of new technologies and methodologies which have the potential to succeed as commercial products submitted to the Small Business Innovation Research program.

Agenda: The meeting on May 20, will be devoted to reviewing and discussing contract proposals dealing with consumer information pertaining to healthcare. In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2 and 5 U.S.C., 552b(c)(6), it has been determined that this meeting will be closed because the discussions are likely to reveal personal information concerning individuals associated with the contract proposals. This information is exempt from mandatory disclosure.

Anyone wishing to obtain a roster of members or other relevant information should contact William Maas, D.D.S., Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, Suite 400, 2101 East Jefferson Street, Rockville, Maryland 20852, Telephone (301) 594-1449.

Agenda items for this meeting are subject to change as priorities dictate.

Dated: April 3, 1996.

Clifton R. Gaus,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-8902 Filed 4-9-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-90-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Receipt of Applications for Permit

The following applicants have applied for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*):

Applicant: Cherie D. Ecker, Lake Forest, IL, PRT-812762

The applicant amends a request for a permit to purchase in interstate commerce and export one pair of White-eared pheasant (*Crossoptilon crossoptilon*) and one pair of Brown-eared pheasant (*Crossoptilon*

mantchuricum), to Al Bustan Farms, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species through propagation. The original notification appeared in the Federal Register Vol. 61, No. 32, 6021, published February 15, 1996, pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*).

Applicant: Circus Tihany, Sarasota, FL, PRT-812762

The applicant requests a permit to export and import captive-born tigers (*Panthera tigris*) and progeny of the animals currently held by the applicant and any animals acquired in the United States by the applicant to/from worldwide locations to enhance the survival of the species through conservation education. This notification covers activities conducted by the applicant over a three year period.

Applicant: Michael Alvard, SUNY, Buffalo, NY, PRT-813132

The applicant requests a permit to import crania and mandibles of mountain anoa (*Bubalus quaries*), lowland anoa (*B. depressicornis*) and babirusa (*Babyrusa babyrusa*) salvaged from subsistence hunters on Sulawesi, Indonesia, for the purpose of scientific research.

Applicant: Stephen Birch Aquarium-Museum, La Jolla, CA, PRT-809683

The applicant requests a permit to export one captive-held green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) to the Procuraduria Federal de Proteccion al Ambiente Delegacion Estatal, Baja California, Mexico, for release into Pacific ocean waters.

Applicant: Duke University Primate Center, Durham, NC, PRT-772901

The applicant requests an amendment to their permit to include the import of two captive-born male golden bamboo lemurs (*Hapalemur aureus*) from the Parc Botanique et Zoologique de Tsimbazaza, Antananarivo, Madagascar, in addition to two male and two female wild caught golden bamboo lemurs from the Department of Water and Forests, Madagascar, for the purposes of enhancement of the species through captive breeding.

Written data or comments should be submitted to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 430, Arlington, Virginia 22203 and must be received by the Director within 30 days of the date of this publication.

The public is invited to comment on the following application(s) for permits