

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Medical Child Support Working Group

AGENCY: Administration for Children and Families, DHHS.

ACTION: Notice of Open Meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), notice is given of the second meeting of the Medical Child Support Working Group (MCSWG). The Medical Child Support Working Group was jointly established by the Secretaries of the Department of Labor (DOL) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) under section 401(a) of the Child Support Performance and Incentive Act of 1998. The purpose of the MCSWG is to identify the impediments to the effective enforcement of medical support by State child support enforcement agencies, and to submit to the Secretaries of DOL and DHHS a report containing recommendations for appropriate measures to address those impediments.

DATES: The meeting of the MCSWG will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 1999, from 11:00 a.m. to approximately 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in Room N-3437, Conference Room A/B/C, at the offices of the U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. All interested parties are invited to attend this public meeting. Seating may be limited and will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Persons needing special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other special accommodation, should contact the Executive Director of the Medical Child Support Working Group, Office of Child Support Enforcement at the address listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Samara Weinstein, Executive Director, Medical Child Support Working Group, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Fourth Floor East, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW, Washington, DC 20447 (telephone (202) 401-6953; fax (202) 401-5559; e-mail: sweinstein@acf.dhhs.gov). These are not toll-free numbers. The date, location and time for subsequent MCSWG meetings will be announced in advance in the **Federal Register**.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2) (FCCA), notice is

given of a meeting of the Medical Child Support Working Group (MCSWG). The Medical Child Support Working Group was jointly established by the Secretaries of the Department of Labor (DOL) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) under section 401(a) of the Child Support Performance and Incentive Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-200).

The purpose of the MCSWG is to identify the impediments to the effective enforcement of medical support by State child support enforcement agencies, and to submit to the Secretaries of DOL and DHHS a report containing recommendations for appropriate measures to address those impediments. This report will include: (1) Recommendations based on assessments of the form and content of the National Medical Support Notice, as issued under interim regulations; (2) appropriate measures that establish the priority of withholding of child support obligations, medical support obligations, arrearages in such obligations, and in the case of a medical support obligation, the employee's portion of any health care coverage premium, by such State agencies in light of the restrictions on garnishment provided under title III of the Consumer Credit Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 1671-1677); (3) appropriate procedures for coordinating the provision, enforcement, and transition of health care coverage under the State programs for child support, Medicaid and the Child Health Insurance Program; (4) appropriate measures to improve the availability of alternate types of medical support that are aside from health care coverage offered through the noncustodial parent's health plan, and unrelated to the noncustodial parent's employer, including measures that establish a noncustodial parent's responsibility to share the cost of premiums, co-payments, deductibles, or payments for services not covered under a child's existing health coverage; (5) recommendations on whether reasonable cost should remain a consideration under section 452(f) of the Social Security Act; and (6) appropriate measures for eliminating any other impediments to the effective enforcement of medical support orders that the MCSWG deems necessary.

The membership of the MCSWG was jointly appointed by the Secretaries of DOL and DHHS, and includes representatives of: (1) DOL; (2) DHHS; (3) State Child Support Enforcement Directors; (4) State Medicaid Directors; (5) employers, including owners of small businesses and their trade and industry representatives and certified

human resource and payroll professionals; (6) plan administrators and plan sponsors of group health plans (as defined in section 607(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1167(1)); (7) children potentially eligible for medical support, such as child advocacy organizations; (8) State medical child support organizations; and (9) organizations representing State child support programs.

Agenda: The agenda for this meeting includes a discussion of the form and content of the national Medical Support Notice (Notice) mandated by section 401(b) of the Child Support Performance and Incentive Act. The Notice is to be jointly developed and promulgated by the Secretaries of DHHS and DOL as a means of enforcing the health care coverage provisions in a child support order. As time permits, the MCSWG may discuss the other items to be included in its report to the Secretaries, as listed above.

Public Participation: Members of the public wishing to present oral statements to the MCSWG should forward their requests to Samara Weinstein, MCSWG Executive Director, as soon as possible and at least four days before the meeting. Such request should be made by telephone, fax machine, or mail, as shown above. Time permitting, the Chairs of the MCSWG will attempt to accommodate all such requests by reserving time for presentations. The order of persons making such presentations will be assigned in the order in which the requests are received. Members of the public are encouraged to limit oral statements to five minutes, but extended written statements may be submitted for the record. Members of the public also may submit written statements for distribution to the MCSWG membership and inclusion in the public record without presenting oral statements. Such written statements should be sent to the MCSWG Executive Director, as shown above, by mail or fax at least five business days before the meeting.

Minutes of all public meetings and other documents made available to the MCSWG will be available for public inspection and copying at both the DOL and DHHS. At DHHS, these documents will be available at the MCSWG Executive Director's Office, Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Aerospace Building, Fourth Floor—East, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW, Washington, DC from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Questions regarding the availability of documents

from DHHS should be directed to Andrew J. Hagan, OCSE (telephone (202) 401-5375). This is not a toll-free number. Any written comments on the minutes should be directed to Ms. Samara Weinstein, Executive Director of the Working Group, as shown above.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 29th day of March, 1999.

David Gray Ross,

Commissioner, Office of Child Support Enforcement.

[FR Doc. 99-8317 Filed 4-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 99N-0038]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Announcement of OMB Approval; Survey of Biomedical Equipment Manufacturers for Year 2000-Compliant Products

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing that a collection of information entitled "Survey of Biomedical Equipment Manufacturers for Year 2000-Compliant Products" has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peggy Schlosburg, Office of Information Resources Management (HFA-250), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, 301-827-1223.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the **Federal Register** of January 22, 1999 (64 FR 3524), the agency announced that the proposed information collection had been submitted to OMB for review and clearance under 44 U.S.C. 3507. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. OMB has now approved the information collection and has assigned OMB control number 0910-0397. The approval expires on September 30,

1999. A copy of the supporting statement for this information collection is available on the Internet at "http://www.fda.gov/ohrms/dockets".

Dated: March 29, 1999.

William K. Hubbard,

Acting Deputy Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 99-8201 Filed 4-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-01-F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Public Input on Public Health; Open Public Forum

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Office of Consumer Affairs and Office of Regulatory Affairs, Pacific Region, is announcing a series of open public forums entitled: "Public Input on Public Health, FDA Listens to You, A Town Hall Meeting." The purpose of the forums is to provide an opportunity for FDA's primary stakeholders, U.S. consumers, to have an open dialogue with FDA's senior policy makers about their consumer protection concerns. FDA plans to use the information in the development of the Pacific Region Strategic Plan and in the development of FDA's nation wide priorities. Under the FDA Modernization Act of 1997 (FDAMA), FDA was mandated by Congress to have ongoing consultations with its stakeholders on how FDA can best meet their regulatory requirements and to protect the public health. Two issues of particular concern, this year, are strengthening the science base of the agency and improving risk-based communication with the public.

DATES: Send registration and requests for oral presentations by May 5, 1999. See Table 1 in section II of this document for a complete schedule of all the meetings.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to the specific contact person. See Table 1 in section II of this document for a complete listing of meeting locations and contact persons.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For general information: James Rowell

or Patricia Alexander, Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, rm. 16-75, Rockville, MD 20857, 301-827-4414 or 301-827-4391, FAX 301-443-9767.

For specific meeting information: See Table 1 in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

FDA is a science based consumer protection agency responsible for ensuring that: (1) Foods are safe, wholesome and sanitary; (2) human and veterinary drugs, biological products, and medical devices are safe and effective; (3) cosmetics and electronic products that emit radiation are safe. FDA also ensures that these regulated products are honestly and accurately labeled and in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. FDA strives to maximize public health protection while reducing regulatory burdens.

Public participation in these forums will provide an essential ingredient to the achievement of the Pacific Region's intermediate and long range strategic planning goals. Additional benefits include: (1) Providing the opportunity to hear directly from consumers their concerns about health and policy issues, (2) reaching out to a broad representation of community based and consumer organizations to reach the full diversity of consumers, (3) using the information gained at these forums in FDA's decisionmaking process, (4) obtaining information necessary for the development of innovative programs to raise public awareness, (5) fostering communication among local agencies, both public and private, in order to more effectively respond to the public's need for information that empowers them in making health related decisions, and (6) encouraging individuals to take personal responsibility for protecting their own health.

II. Scheduled Meetings

The open public forums will be held in several locations throughout the country. The scheduled date and time, location, and specific contact person for each meeting is listed in Table 1 as follows:

TABLE 1.—MEETING SCHEDULES AND CONTACTS FOR REGISTRATION

Date	Time	Place	Address	Contact
Wednesday, May 12, 1999	10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Elihu Harris State Office Bldg. Auditorium.	1515 Clay St., Oakland, CA.	Mary Ellen Taylor at 510-337-6888, FAX 510-337-6708