

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, April 2, 1999.

**Jennifer J. Johnson,**

*Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 99-8654 Filed 4-7-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

#### Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC): Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following meeting.

*Name:* Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (formerly Hospital Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee).

*Times and Dates:*

8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., May 24, 1999.

8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., May 25, 1999.

*Place:* CDC, Auditorium A, 1600 Clifton Road, NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30333.

*Status:* Open to the public, limited only by the space available.

*Purpose:* The Committee is charged with providing advice and guidance to the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary for Health, the Director, CDC, and the Director, National Center for Infectious Diseases (NCID), regarding (1) the practice of hospital infection control; (2) strategies for surveillance, prevention, and control of infections (e.g., nosocomial infections), antimicrobial resistance, and related events in settings where healthcare is provided; and (3) periodic updating guidelines and other policy statements regarding prevention of healthcare associated infections and healthcare-related conditions.

*Matters to be Discussed:* Agenda items will include an overview of the strategic direction of HICPAC; plan(s) for collaboration between HICPAC and professional organizations in developing guideline; plan(s) for evaluation of the Guideline for Prevention of Site Infection; review of the second draft of the Guideline for Environmental Controls in Healthcare Settings; and a review of CDC activities of interest to the Committee.

Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

*Contact Person for More Information:*

Michele L. Pearson, M.D., Medical Epidemiologist, Investigation and Prevention Branch, Hospital Infections Program, NCID, CDC, 1600 Clifton Road, NE, M/S E-69, Atlanta, Georgia 30333, telephone 404/639-6413.

The Director, Management Analysis and Services Office has been delegated the authority to sign Federal Register notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities, for

both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Dated: April 2, 1999.

**Carolyn J. Russell,**

*Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

#### Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Infectious Diseases: Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following committee meeting.

*Name:* Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Infectious Diseases (NCID).

*Times and Dates:*

9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m., May 6, 1999.

8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., May 7, 1999.

*Place:* CDC, Auditorium B, 1600 Clifton Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30333.

*Status:* Open to the public, limited only by the space available.

*Purpose:* The Board of Scientific Counselors, NCID, provides advice and guidance to the Director, CDC, and Director, NCID, in the following areas: program goals and objectives; strategies; program organization and resources for infectious disease prevention and control; and program priorities.

*Matters to be Discussed:* Agenda items will include:

1. NCID Update—Dr. Hughes
2. Minority Health Program—Dr. Black
3. Bioterrorism Preparedness—Drs. Ostroff, Lillibridge, and Morse
4. Arctic Investigations Program—Dr. Butler
5. Discussion of Programs
6. Antimicrobial Resistance Dr. Bell
7. Economic Impact of pandemic Influenza—Dr. Meltzer
8. Scientific Updates
  - a. Hepatitis C
  - b. Malaysia Outbreak
9. Discussions and Recommendations

Other agenda items include announcements/introductions; follow-up on actions recommended by the Board December 1998; consideration of future directions, goals, and recommendations.

Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

Written comments are welcome and should be received by the contact person listed below prior to the opening of the meeting.

*Contact Person for More Information:*

Diane S. Holley, Office of the Director, NCID,

CDC, 1600 Clifton Road, M/S C-20, NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30333, telephone 404/639-0078.

The Director, Management Analysis and Services office has been delegated the authority to sign Federal Register notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities, for both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Dated: April 2, 1999.

**Carolyn J. Russell,**

*Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).*

[FR Doc. 99-8729 Filed 4-7-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Food and Drug Administration

#### Drug Repackager Workshop

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of workshop.

The Food and Drug Administration, in cooperation with the North Central Association of Food and Drug Officials (NCAFD), a local nonprofit organization, is announcing the following workshop: Drug Repackager Workshop. The topic to be discussed is current good manufacturing practices for the drug repackaging industry, including (but not limited to) stability testing and expiration dating for both solid and liquid oral dosage forms; packaging and labeling control; and separation of penicillin/cephalosporin operations from other drug products.

*Date and Time:* The workshop will be held on Tuesday, May 18, 1999, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Send information regarding registration by May 10, 1999.

*Location:* The workshop will be held at Hamburger University at The Lodge on the McDonald's Office Campus, 2815 Jorie Blvd., Oak Brook, IL 60523.

*Contact:* Lorelei S. Jarrell, Preapproval Manager, Food and Drug Administration, 300 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606, 312-353-5863, ext. 146, FAX 312-886-3280, e-mail "ljarrell@fda.gov".

*Registration:* Send registration information (including name, title, firm name, address, telephone, and fax number), along with a \$75 registration fee (which will cover the actual cost of the facilities, continental breakfast, lunch, refreshments, and miscellaneous items) to Pat Lewis, Food and Drug Administration, 300 South Riverside Plaza, suite 550 South, Chicago, IL 60606, 312-353-5863, ext. 190, by May

10, 1999. Checks should be made payable to NCAFD. There is limited seating, so registration will be honored on a first-come-first-served basis.

For hotel reservations, please contact The Lodge at McDonald's Office Campus, 2815 Jorie Blvd., Oak Brook, IL 60523. To obtain the preferred room rate of \$159 per single room, please call the hotel at 630-990-5800, and state that you will be attending the Drug Repackager Workshop.

If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Lorelei S. Jarrell at least 7 days in advance.

Dated: April 1, 1999.

**William K. Hubbard,**

*Acting Deputy Commissioner for Policy.*

[FR Doc. 99-8658 Filed 4-7-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Health Care Financing Administration [HCFA-1071-N]

#### Medicare Program; April 23, 1999 Open Town Hall Meeting to Discuss the Skilled Nursing Facility Prospective Payment System (SNF/PPS) and Quality of Care in Nursing Facilities

**AGENCY:** Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a Town Hall meeting to provide an opportunity for nursing homes, beneficiary advocates, and other interested parties to ask questions and raise issues regarding the prospective payment system for skilled nursing facilities and the quality of care in nursing facilities. The meeting represents one aspect of the evolving process for making our payment, coverage, and quality reviews more open and responsive to the public. The meeting will address the following topics:

- An update and future refinements to the skilled nursing facility/prospective payment system including a discussion of nontherapy ancillary services and consolidated billing.
- Outpatient therapy caps and other Part B issues.
- Skilled nursing facility coverage and medical review.
- Nursing home enforcement and quality issues.

**DATES:** The meeting is scheduled for April 23, 1999 from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., E.D.T.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the HCFA headquarters auditorium, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland, 21244.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jackie Gordon, (410) 786-4517, or Martha Kuespert, (410) 786-4605.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

We are announcing a Town Hall meeting to provide an opportunity for nursing homes, beneficiary advocates, and other interested parties to ask questions and raise issues regarding the skilled nursing facility (SNF) prospective payment system (PPS) and the quality of care in nursing homes. On May 12, 1998, we published an interim final rule with comment period to implement SNF PPS (63 FR 26252). Initially, we provided a 60-day period for public comment. In response to requests from the industry, we extended the comment period twice (see 63 FR 37498 (July 13, 1998) and 63 FR 65561 (November 27, 1998)). The comment period for the SNF PPS interim final rule ended on December 28, 1998. We are currently developing the final rule and we expect to publish it soon. In developing the final rule, we are considering all public comments properly submitted during the public comment period. We will not accept any further comments on the interim final rule at this Town Hall meeting; that is, this meeting does not mean we are extending the public comment period.

In addition to the implementation of SNF PPS, we have embarked on an ambitious program to improve the quality of care in all nursing facilities. These two major initiatives have had wide-ranging effects on nursing facilities. The public has raised questions about how we propose to implement various aspects of these initiatives; how they interrelate; and how, and to what extent, we currently anticipate acting on current research and experience as a means of initiating future improvements in our quality assurance and payment systems.

This Town Hall meeting provides a forum for addressing these issues. We anticipate participation by nursing homes, nursing home organizations, hospital organizations, professional medical and allied health organizations, therapy and other nursing home supplier organization groups, national nursing home advocacy organizations, the press, and other members of the public with an interest in future SNF PPS and quality of care nursing home issues.

We intend that the meeting will provide a forum for the aforementioned

groups to ask questions and raise issues about SNF PPS and quality of care in nursing homes. We intend to discuss our research efforts and the general direction that we are moving toward concerning these topics.

The format of the meeting will include an overview of the SNF PPS and quality of care topics. There will be a panel for each of the following topics:

- An update and future refinements to the skilled nursing facility/prospective payment system including a discussion of nontherapy ancillary services and consolidated billing.
- Outpatient therapy caps and other Part B issues.
- Skilled nursing facility coverage and medical review.
- Nursing home enforcement and quality issues.

We will allow short (10-20 minutes) presentations by the public and our staff on these topics. The meeting will conclude with a question-and-answer session during which the public may raise issues related to the topics discussed.

Individuals who wish to make a presentation or be panelists at the meeting must contact Jackie Gordon at (410) 786-4517 or via e-mail at JGordon2@hcfa.gov or Martha Kuespert at (410) 786-4605 or via e-mail MKuespert@hcfa.gov no later than April 16, 1999. It is important that parties wishing to participate at the meeting include the topic for the panel on which they wish to participate. Also, because of time constraints, only a limited number of parties will be able to make presentations. We will notify participants who have been selected to make a presentation. We will not assign presentation times until the end of the public notice period established by this notice.

While the meeting is open to the public, attendance is limited to space available. Individuals must register in advance as described below.

#### Registration

The Office of Professional Relations will handle registration for the meeting. Individuals may register by sending a fax to the attention of Bernice Harper, Ph.D., at the Office of Professional Relations. At the time of registration, please provide your name, address, telephone number, and fax number.

Receipt of your fax will constitute confirmation of your registration. You will be provided with meeting materials at the time of the meeting.

For fax registration, the number is 202-401-7438.

If you have questions regarding registration please contact either