

- Provides consistent guidance, technical assistance, and policy interpretation to States on Medicaid program and financial issues.

- Reviews and approves managed care contracts and prepaid health plans.

- Directs activities in support of the Medicaid managed care program including technical support and oversight of these plans.

- Implements Title XIX special initiatives, such as maternal and child health, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, health maintenance organization contracts, and other special programs and operations of major management initiatives.

- Directs activities in support of the managed care program including technical support and oversight of prepaid contractors.

- Monitors all aspects of contractor performance including claims/bills processing; coverage decisions; medical review; the detection of fraud, abuse, and waste in the Medicare Program; overpayment identification and collection; Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP); provider payment and audit; payment to physicians and suppliers; and electronic media claims.

- Evaluates Medicare contractor performance and prepares annual Report of Contractor Performance.

- Recommends renewals, non-renewals, rescissions, and terminations of Medicare contracts.

- Coordinates the ESRD program.

#### Fiscal Integrity

- Makes final determination on all budget requests submitted by State Survey Agencies.

- Reviews, evaluates, and determines acceptability of audit findings and recommendations and takes necessary clearance and closure actions.

- Reviews, approves, and monitors State payment systems and determines the allowability of claims for Federal financial participation. Takes action to disallow claims when expenditures are not in accordance with Federal requirements and defends such action before the Departmental Appeals Board and in court. Defers payment action on questionable State claims for allowability.

- Reviews States' Medicaid Quarterly Estimates and Statement of Expenditures reports and recommends the amount to be estimated and allowed in the quarterly grants.

- Coordinates on-going contractor fiscal management activities, including subcontracting, cash management activities, and compliance with the Chief Financial Officers Act.

- Negotiates and approves Medicare contractor budget and budget modifications.

#### Customer Service

- Authorizes investigation of complaints received from beneficiaries, the public, the Congress, the media, and other sources which allege deficiencies in the quality of care rendered by certified health care providers.

- Actively participates in and takes a lead role in training, outreach and collaborative activities involving providers, provider groups, health care professionals, professional organizations, consumer groups, and State Survey Agencies, relating to quality of health care services.

- Conducts customer outreach and service initiatives.

- Manages beneficiary, provider, and public information programs.

- Ensures that Medicare beneficiaries are informed of HCFA program benefits, rights and responsibilities through a comprehensive marketing strategy to varied audiences.

- Coordinates the operation of a public information and outreach programs directed at beneficiary groups, professional organizations, advocacy organizations, other health care entities, and the media.

- Directs the implementation of HCFA beneficiary services initiatives, such as the Medigap, Retired Senior Volunteer Programs, Information Counseling Assistance grants, and Qualified Medicare Beneficiary programs.

#### Quality Functions

- Directs the review and evaluation of the effectiveness of the Medicare program.

- Pro-actively utilizes resources and information to effectively and efficiently assure practical quality health care for HCFA beneficiaries.

- Interprets and implements health and safety standards and evaluates, through surveillance and surveys, the impact on the utilization and quality of health care services.

- Provides leadership in the development, implementation and continuation of continuous quality improvement activities for the State Survey Agencies and providers.

- Provides leadership in the quality improvement aspects of HCFA's national managed care program.

- Directs Medicare program administration through working relationships with contractors, providers, physicians, beneficiaries, the Social Security Administration district offices, the Administration on Aging,

the Office of Inspector General, and other Federal agencies, as well as local and national organizations and individuals, as required.

Dated: March 6, 1996.

Bruce C. Vladeck,

*Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration.*

[FR Doc. 96-6296 Filed 3-14-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120-01-P

#### National Institutes of Health; Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the third meeting of the Task Force on Genetic Testing of the National Institutes of Health—Department of Energy Joint Working Group on the Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications of Human Genome Research (ELSI Working Group) on Monday, April 29, 1996, 8:30 a.m. to recess; Tuesday, April 30, 1996, 8:30 a.m. to adjournment, at the Clarion Hotel at Mount Vernon Square, 612 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, Maryland, (410) 727-7101.

Contact Person: Joshua H. Brown, J.D., Genetics and Public Policy Studies, The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, 550 North Broadway, Suite 511, Baltimore, Maryland 21205, (410) 955-7894. An agenda for the meeting may be obtained from Mr. Brown.

The Task Force on Genetic Testing has developed a set of interim principles in three areas: scientific validation of new tests; laboratory quality; and, education, counseling, and delivery. These interim principles are being made public to give interested parties an opportunity to comment before the principles are finalized. A copy of the principles is available from Mr. Brown upon request.

Public Comment: Individuals or representatives of organizations wishing to make an oral presentation, of no more than 10 minutes, to the Task Force on Monday, April 29, between 2:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., should submit their name, affiliation, address, telephone number, and summary of their remarks to Mr. Brown at the above address by April 18. Written comments will be accepted up to May 31. Written comments received by April 18 will be considered by the Task Force at the April 29 meeting. All comments, whether oral or written, will be given full consideration by the Task Force on Genetic Testing.

Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact Mr. Brown in advance of the meeting.

Dated: March 12, 1996.

Susan K. Feldman,

*Committee Management Officer, NIH.*

[FR Doc. 96-6281 Filed 3-14-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

## National Institutes of Health

### National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Special Emphasis Panel (SEP) meeting:

*Name of SEP:* AIDS-Related Conference Grant, Clinical Investigator Awards, and a Program Project.

*Date:* April 19, 1996.

*Time:* 8:00 a.m.

*Place:* Doubletree Hotel, Montrose Room, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-468-1100.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Peter Jackson, Scientific Review Adm., 6003 Executive Boulevard, Solar Bldg., Room 4C10, Bethesda, MD 20892-7610, (301) 496-2550.

*Purpose/Agenda:* To evaluate grant applications.

The meeting will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. Applications and/or proposals and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications and/or proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.855, Immunology, Allergic and Immunologic Diseases Research; 93.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health.)

Dated: March 11, 1996.

Susan K. Feldman,

*Committee Management Officer, NIH.*

[FR Doc. 96-6273 Filed 3-14-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

### National Institute of Dental Research; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following National Institute of Dental Research Special Emphasis Panel (SEP) meetings:

*Name of SEP:* National Institute of Dental Research Special Emphasis Panel-Review of SBIR Facial Profile 96-24.

*Dates:* April 3, 1996.

*Time:* 1 p.m.

*Place:* Natcher Building, Rm. 4AN-44F, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20892 (teleconference).

*Contact Person:* Dr. George Hausch, Chief, Grants Review Section, 4500 Center Drive, Natcher Building, Room 4AN-44F, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-2372.

*Purpose/Agenda:* To evaluate and review grant applications and/or contract proposals.

*Name of SEP:* National Institute of Dental Research Special Emphasis Panel-Review of Maxillofacial Prosthetic Materials 96-26.

*Dates:* April 5, 1996.

*Time:* 3 p.m.

*Place:* Natcher Building, Rm. 4AN-44F, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20892 (teleconference).

*Contact Person:* Dr. George Hausch, Chief, Grants Review Section, 4500 Center Drive, Natcher Building, Room 4AN-44F, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-2372.

*Name of SEP:* National Institute of Dental Research Special Emphasis Panel-Review of Pharmacologic Effects of Fluoride 96-16.

*Dates:* April 9-10, 1996.

*Time:* 3 p.m.

*Place:* Hyatt Regency Hotel, One Bethesda Metro Center, Bethesda, MD 20814.

*Contact Person:* Dr. George Hausch, Chief, Grants Review Section, 4500 Center Drive, Natcher Building, Room 4AN-44F, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-2372.

*Purpose/Agenda:* To evaluate and review grant applications and/or contract proposals.

*Name of SEP:* National Institute of Dental Research Special Emphasis Panel-Review of Secondary Caries 96-17.

*Dates:* April 19, 1996.

*Time:* 1 p.m.

*Place:* Natcher Building, Rm. 4AN-44F, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20892 (teleconference).

*Contact Person:* Dr. Yong Shin, Scientific Review Administrator, 4500 Center Drive, Natcher Building, Room 4AN-44F, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-2372.

*Purpose/Agenda:* To evaluate and review grant applications and/or contract proposals.

The meetings will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. Applications and/or proposals and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications and/or proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.121, Oral Diseases and Disorders Research)

Dated: March 11, 1996.

Susan K. Feldman,

*Committee Management Officer, NIH.*

[FR Doc. 96-6275 Filed 3-14-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

### National Institutes of General Medical Sciences; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given of the meeting of the National Advisory General Medical Sciences Council, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health, on May 16-17, 1996, Building 45, Room E1 and E2, Bethesda, Maryland.

This meeting will be open to the public from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on May 16, for the discussion of program policies and issues, opening remarks, report of the Acting Director, NIGMS, and other business of Council. Attendance by the public will be limited to space available.

In accordance with provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. and section 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, the meeting will be closed to the public on May 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and on May 17 from 8:30 a.m. until adjournment, for the review, discussion, and evaluation of individual grant applications. The discussions of these applications could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications, disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Mrs. Ann Dieffenbach, Public Information Officer, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health, Natcher Building, Room 3AS-43H, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, telephone: 301-496-7301, FAX 301-402-0224, will provide a summary of the meeting, and a roster of Council members. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact Mrs. Dieffenbach in advance of the meeting. Dr. W. Sue Shafer, Executive Secretary, NAGMS Council, National Institutes of Health, Natcher Building, Room 2AN-32C, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, telephone: 301-594-4499 will provide substantive program information upon request.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.821, Biophysics and Physiological Sciences; 93.859, Pharmacological Sciences; 93.862, Genetics Research; 93.863, Cellular and Molecular Basis of Disease Research; 93.880, Minority