

Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, contact Barbara Wassell, Project Clearance Liaison, Division of Grants Policy, Office of Policy for Extramural Research, NIH, Rockledge II Building, Room 2189, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 2089-7730, or call non-toll-free number (301) 435-0937 or E-mail your request, including your address to: <wassellb@odrockml.od.nih.gov>.

COMMENTS DUE DATE: Comments regarding this information collection are best assured of having their full effect if received within 60-days of the date of this publication.

Dated: January 23, 1997.

Ruth L. Kirschstein,
Deputy Director, NIH.

[FR Doc. 97-2484 Filed 1-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

Consensus Development Conference on Management of Hepatitis C

Notice is hereby given of the NIH Consensus Development Conference on "Management of Hepatitis C," which will be held March 24-26, 1997, in the Natcher Conference Center of the National Institutes of Health, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20892. The conference begins at 8:30 a.m. on March 24, at 8 a.m. on March 25, and at 9 a.m. on March 26.

The hepatitis C virus (HCV) is a major cause of both acute and chronic hepatitis in the United States. Hepatitis C, previously known as "non-A, non-B hepatitis," affects between 1 and 2 percent of Americans, and chronic infection with HCV is probably the single most important cause of chronic liver disease, cirrhosis, and liver cancer in the Western world. Not all cases of hepatitis C are severe or progressive. Many patients are asymptomatic and are only diagnosed when they are found to have abnormal liver tests following a blood donation or routine evaluation of another problem. Yet, chronic hepatitis C can be insidious and slowly progressive and lead to cirrhosis and liver failure after years or decades of infection.

At present, there are no specific means of prevention of hepatitis C, and

the only therapy of proven benefit is alpha interferon. Interferon treatment, however, is far from satisfactory. Therapy is expensive, often poorly tolerated, and results in a favorable long-term response in only a minority of patients. Given the uncertainties regarding hepatitis C, patients with this disease and their doctors face difficult decisions.

To address the most important and controversial clinical issues in hepatitis C, the NIH has organized this 2½ day conference to bring together national and international experts in the fields of virology, epidemiology, natural history, prevention, and therapy of hepatitis C, as well as representatives from the public.

Following 1½ days of presentations and audience discussion, an independent, non-Federal consensus panel will weigh the scientific evidence and write a draft statement that it will present to the audience on the third day. The consensus statement will address the following key questions:

- What is the natural history of hepatitis C?
- What is the most appropriate approach to diagnose and monitor patients?
- What recommendations can be made to patients to prevent transmission?
- Which patients should be treated?
- What is the most effective approach to therapy?
- What are the most important areas for future research on hepatitis C?

The primary sponsors of this conference are the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases and the NIH Office of Medical Applications of Research. The conference is cosponsored by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; the National Institute on Drug Abuse of the National Institutes of Health; and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Advance information on the conference program and conference registration materials may be obtained from Rose Salton, Technical Resources International, Inc., 3202 Tower Oaks Blvd., Suite 200, Rockville, Maryland 20852, (301) 770-3153, or by sending e-mail to confdept@tech-res.com.

The consensus statement will be submitted for publication in professional journals and other publications. In addition, the statement will be available beginning March 24, 1997, from the NIH Consensus Program Information Center, P.O. Box 2577, Kensington, Maryland 20891, phone 1-888-NIH-CONSENSUS (1-888-644-

2667) and from the NIH Consensus Development Program site on the World Wide Web at <http://consensus.nih.gov>.

Dated: January 21, 1997.

Ruth L. Kirschstein,
Deputy Director, NIH.

[FR Doc. 97-2483 Filed 1-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

National Eye Institute; 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 Eye Institute Special Emphasis Panel (SEP) meeting:

Name of SEP: Clinical Research.

Date: February 27, 1997.

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: National Eye Institute, Executive Plaza South, Suite #350, 6120 Executive Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20892-7164.

Contact Person: Andrew P. Mariani, Ph.D., Executive Plaza South, Room 350, 6120 Executive Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20892-7164, (301) 469-5561.

Purpose/Agenda: Review of Grant Applications.

The meeting will be closed in accordance with 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. 93.867, Vision Research: National Institutes of Health.)

Dated: January 23, 1997.

Paula N. Hayes,

Acting Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 97-2472 Filed 1-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Meeting of the Sleep Disorders Research Advisory Board and its Education and Sleep Research Subcommittee

Pursuant to Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given of the meetings of the Sleep Disorders Research Advisory Board, and its Subcommittees, National Center on Sleep Disorders Research, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, March 11-12, 1997. These meetings will be held at the National Institutes of Health, Building 31, C Wing, Conference Rooms 6, 7, and 8, respectively, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20892.

All meetings will be open to the public. The Education and Sleep Research Subcommittees will meet concurrently March 11 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. to discuss sleep research and education related priorities and programs, and the Advisory Board will meet on March 12 from 9:00 a.m. to adjournment to discuss recommendations on the implementation and evaluation of the National Center on Sleep Disorders Research programs. Attendance by the public will be limited to space available.

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

Dr. James P. Kiley, Executive Secretary and Director, National Center on Sleep Disorders Research, NHLBI, Two Rockledge Center, Suite 7024, 6701 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7920, Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7920, (301) 435-0199, will furnish meeting and member information.

Dated: January 23, 1997.

Paula N. Hayes,

Acting Committee Management Officer, NIH.
[FR Doc. 97-2478 Filed 1-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; Notice of a 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 Environmental Health Sciences Special Emphasis Panel (SEP) meeting:

Name of SEP: Endotoxin and Susceptibility to Chemical Toxicity.

Date: February 28, 1997.

Time: 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Place: National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, South Campus, Building 101, Conference Room C, Research Triangle Park, NC.

Contact Person: Dr. Linda K. Bass, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, P.O. Box 12233, MD 17-09, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, (919) 541-1307.

Purpose/Agenda: To review and 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 the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs Nos. 93.113, Biological Response to Environmental Agents; 93.114, Applied Toxicological Research and Testing; 93.115, Biometry and Risk Estimation; 93.894, Resource and Manpower Development, National Institutes of Health.)

Dated: January 23, 1997.

Paula N. Hayes,

Acting Committee Management Officer, NIH.
[FR Doc. 97-2471 Filed 1-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

National Institutes of Health

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-Concept Review of Children's Amalgam Trial (97-PG-01).

Dates: February 2-3, 1997.

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Place: Marriott Pooks Hill, 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Contact person: Dr. Norman Braveman, Chief, Program Development Branch, 4500 Center Drive, Natcher Building, Room 4AN-32F, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-2089.

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

This notice is being published less than fifteen days prior to the meeting due to the urgent need to meet timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of SEP: National Institute of Dental Research Special Emphasis Panel-Review of R01 Grant (97-30).

Dates: February 26, 1997.

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 4500 Center Drive, Natcher Building, Room 4AN-44F, 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 R01 Grant (97-26).

Dates: March 11, 1997.

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 4500 Center Drive, Natcher Building, Room 4AN-44F, 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 R01 Grant (97-26).

Dates: March 13, 1997.

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 4500 Center Drive, Natcher Building, Room 4AN-44F, 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.

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: January 27, 1997.

Paula N. Hayes,

Acting Committee Management Officer, NIH.
[FR Doc. 97-2473 Filed 1-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

National Institute of Mental Health; 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 meetings of the National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel:

Agenda/Purpose: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Committee Name: National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: February 5, 1997.

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: Chevy Chase Holiday Inn, 5520 Wisconsin Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

Contact Person: Michael D. Hirsch, Parklawn, Room 9-101, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone: 301, 443-3936.

Committee Name: National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: February 13, 1997.

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: Parklawn, Room 9C-26, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Contact Person: Phyllis D. Artis, Parklawn, Room 9C-26, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, Telephone: 301, 443-6470.

Committee Name: National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: February 14, 1997.

Time: 11 a.m.

Place: One Washington Circle, One Washington Circle, N.W., Washington, DC 20037.