

Furthermore, if the ASC does not provide its own laboratory services, it must have procedures for obtaining routine and emergency laboratory services from a certified laboratory in accordance with part 493. Any referral laboratory must be certified in the appropriate specialties and subspecialties of service to perform the referred tests in accordance with the requirements of part 493.

- *Life Safety Code: Surgical Procedures*—AAAASF agreed to require facilities to meet State and local requirements, or the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) Standards for Health Care Facilities (NFPA 99), and Life Safety Code (NFPA 101) Chapters 12 and 13 (and appropriate references), whichever is more stringent. Language was added to specify that their regular inspections for installation and maintenance of surgical equipment will be at least annually. In conformity with the NFPA requirements, AAAASF has made standby generator as the mandatory source of emergency power and reduced the time for such generators to reach full power from 30 to 10 seconds.

- *Life Safety Code: Environment*—AAAASF has specified that fire drills must be held once a month for each shift and has made smoke detectors mandatory for all office-based ASCs.

- *Life Safety Code: Standards Addendum*—AAAASF has specified that facilities must be inspected at least annually by the local or State fire control agency if this service is available. If not, AAAASF agrees to contract with a State agency or qualified subcontractor to perform the inspections.

- *Inspector Training Program*—AAAASF has submitted a revised training program that provides for consistent, national training of all inspectors in their processes and integrates instruction in the Medicare requirements based on either the trainer's participation in Medicare training or using Medicare survey experts as instructors.

We have agreed to accept language that requires compliance with the 1985 edition of the Life Safety Code with an encouragement by AAAASF that facilities comply with the 1997 Code. These standards will apply to all facilities regardless of size.

B. Analysis and Responses to Public Comments and Provisions of the Final Notice

We received no comments on our proposed notice. The provisions of the proposed notice are being made final in this notice.

III. Paperwork Reduction Act

The public reporting and record keeping burden reflected in this notice is referenced in the currently approved regulation entitled "Granting and Withdrawal of Deeming Authority to National Accreditation Organizations (58 FR 61816)." The paperwork burden referenced in the above mentioned regulation is currently approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), under OMB approval number 0938-0690, with an expiration date of 8/31/99.

IV. Regulatory Impact Statement

In fiscal year 1995, there were 2,105 certified ASCs participating in the Medicare/Medicaid programs. We conducted 211 initial surveys, 288 recertification surveys (both at a cost of \$714,069), and 24 complaint surveys. In fiscal year 1996, there were 2,219 certified ASCs. This was an increase of 114 facilities. We conducted 180 initial surveys, 115 recertification surveys (both at a cost of \$848,125), and one complaint survey. In fiscal year 1997, there were 2,433 certified ASCs. This was an increase of 214 facilities. We conducted 236 initial surveys, 252 recertification surveys (both at a cost of \$1,403,000), and seven complaint surveys. As the data above indicate, the number of ASCs and the cost for conducting ASC surveys by State Agencies are increasing.

As indicated above, there was a 16 percent increase in ASCs within 3 years (fiscal years 1995 through 1997). The fiscal year 1998 appropriation for ASC survey activities to HCFA was decreased as the priority of both initial surveys and resurveys remained in the bottom 10 percent of surveys performed, but without any adjustment for inflation. This does not allow sufficient resources for some regions to meet the survey demand. In an effort to guarantee the continued health, safety, and services of beneficiaries in facilities already certified as well as provide relief to State budgets in this time of tight fiscal restraints, we are approving deeming for ASCs accredited by AAAASF as meeting our Medicare requirements. Thus, we continue our focus on assuring the health and safety of services by providers and suppliers already certified for participation in a cost effective manner.

In accordance with the provisions of Executive Order 12866, this notice was not reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

Authority: Section 1865 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395bb)

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.778, Medical Assistance Program; No. 93.773 Medicare—Hospital Insurance Program; and No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: October 19, 1998.

Nancy-Ann DeParle,

Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration.

[FR Doc. 98-32102 Filed 12-1-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center for Scientific Review; 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.

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

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel, The History of Medicine Panel.

Date: December 4, 1998.

Time: 8:30 am to 12:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Double Tree Hotel, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Contact Person: Gilbert Meier, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5112, MSC 7852, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1169.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel, Ethics/Genome Study Section.

Date: December 7-8, 1998.

Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Georgetown Holiday Inn, 2101 Wisconsin Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20007.

Contact Person: Cheryl M. Corsaro, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institute of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 6172, MSC 7890, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1045.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 7, 1998.

Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Carole L. Jelsema, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5222, MSC 7850, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1249, jelsemac@drg.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 7, 1998.

Time: 10:00 am to 11:00 am.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Jean Hickman, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4194, MSC 7808, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1146.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 7, 1998.

Time: 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Syed M. Quadri, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4144, MSC 7804, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1211.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 7, 1998.

Time: 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Garrett V. Keefer, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4190, MSC 7808, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1152.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 7, 1998.

Time: 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Timothy J. Henry, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4180, MSC 7808, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1147.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 8, 1998.

Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

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

Contact Person: Gertrude K. McFarland, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4110, MSC 7816, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1784.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 8, 1998.

Time: 10:00 am to 11:00 am.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Carol A. Campbell, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5196, MSC 7848, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1257.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 8, 1998.

Time: 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Timothy J. Henry, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4180, MSC 7808, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1147.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 8, 1998.

Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Houston Baker, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5128, MSC 7854, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1175, houstonb@drg.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 8, 1998.

Time: 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge II, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Eugene Zimmerman, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4202, MSC 7812, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-435-1220.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 9, 1998.

Time: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Ramada Inn, 1775 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Contact Person: Joe Marwah, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5188, MSC 7846, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1253.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 9-10, 1998.

Time: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Latham Hotel Georgetown, 3000 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20007.

Contact Person: John L. Bowers, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4168, MSC 7806, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1725.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 9, 1998.

Time: 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Sami A. Mayyasi, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of

Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5112, MSC 7852, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1169.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 9, 1998.

Time: 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: David Monsees, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 3199, MSC 7816, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-0684.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 9, 1998.

Time: 1:30 pm to 2:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge II, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Alexander D. Politis, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4204, MSC 7812, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1225, politisa@drg.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 9, 1998.

Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge II, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Eugene Zimmerman, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4202, MSC 7812, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-435-1220.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 9, 1998.

Time: 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Luigi Giacometti, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5208, MSC 7850, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1246.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing

limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 9, 1998.

Time: 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Anthony C. Chung, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4138, MSC 7802, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1213.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: December 9, 1998.

Time: 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge II, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Alexander D. Politis, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4204, MSC 7812, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1225, politisa@drg.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine, 93.306; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: November 25, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98-32063 Filed 12-1-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Center for Research Resources; 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 meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning

individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Center for Research Resources Special Emphasis Panel Science Education Partnership Award.

Date: February 2, 1999.

Time: 8:00 am to Adjournment.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

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

Contact Person: John D. Harding, PHD, Scientific Review Administrator, Office of Review, National Center for Research Resources, 6705 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7965, Room 6018, Bethesda, MD 20892-7965, 301-435-0820.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine, 93.306; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.333; 93.371, Biomedical Technology; 93.389, Research Infrastructure, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: November 25, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98-32058 Filed 12-1-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Center for Research Resources; Notice of 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 meetings of the National Advisory Research Resources Council.

The meetings will be open to the public as indicated below, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the Contact Person listed below in advance of the meeting.

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