

Gaither Road, First Floor, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Anne Lebbon, Coordinator of the Advisory Council, at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 540 Gaither Road, Rockville, Maryland 20850, (301) 427-1215. For press-related information, please contact Karen Migdail at (301) 427-1855.

If sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodation for a disability is needed, please contact Mr. Donald L. Inniss, Director, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity Program, Program Support Center, on (301) 443-1144 no later than July 18, 2003.

Agenda, roster, and minutes are available from Ms. Bonnie Campbell, Committee Management Officer, Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research, 540 Gaither Road, Rockville, Maryland 20850. Her phone number is (301) 427-1554. Minutes will be available after August 15, 2003.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Purpose**

Section 921 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 299c) established the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality. In accordance with its statutory mandate, the Council is to advise the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Director, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), on matters related to actions of the Agency to enhance the quality, improve the outcomes, reduce the costs of health care services, improve access to such services through scientific research, and to promote improvements in clinical practice and in the organization, financing, and delivery of health care services. The Council is composed of members of the public appointed by the Secretary and Federal ex-officio members.

**II. Agenda**

On Friday, July 25, 2003, the meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m., with the call to order by Council Chairwoman. The Director, AHRQ, will present the status of the Agency's current research,

programs, and initiatives. Tentative agenda items include a discussion of AHRQ's Strategic Directions, Information Technology, the National Healthcare Quality Report, and the National Healthcare Disparities Report. The official agenda will be available on AHRQ's Web site at <http://www.ahrq.gov> no later than July 11, 2003. The meeting will adjourn at 4 p.m.

Dated: July 2, 2003.

**Carolyn M. Clancy,**

Director.

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

**[60Day-03-90]**

**Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry; Proposed Data Collections Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations**

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects. To request more information on the proposed projects or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, call the CDC Reports Clearance Officer on (404)498-1210. CDC is requesting an emergency clearance for this data collection with a week comment period. CDC is requesting OMB approval of this package seven days after the end of the public comment period.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and

clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Send comments to Seleda Perryman, CDC Assistant Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road, MS-D24, Atlanta, GA 30333. Written comments should be received within seven days of this notice.

*Proposed Project: Monkeypox Outbreak Investigation—New—National Center for Infectious Diseases (NCID), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).* The purpose of this project is to respond to an outbreak of *Monkeypox virus*, which belongs to the orthopoxvirus group of viruses. Monkeypox clinically resembles smallpox but differs both biologically and epidemiologically. Monkeypox was first introduced into the Western hemisphere in April 2003. The source of the virus was traced back to a distributor of exotic animals, where prairie dogs and Gambian giant rats were housed together in Illinois. These rats were shipped from Ghana in April to a wildlife importer in Texas and subsequently sold to the Illinois distributor.

On June 4, 2003, the first human cases of monkeypox in the U.S. were discovered in patients in Illinois and Wisconsin. The source of the contact was a pet prairie dog. Since then, 81 confirmed, probable and suspect human cases have been reported in six different states. CDC has been involved in the investigation of this outbreak. In order to further the investigation, several collections of information are required. Currently, CDC is collecting this information under an Epidemic Aid (epi-aid) which will expire in 30 days. To preserve continuity in the surveillance information collected by public health investigators, CDC is requesting an emergency clearance (six-month) on the current surveillance forms. The information collected includes contact information for patients and animal distributors. There are no costs to the respondents.

Form	Respondent	No. of respondents	No. of responses per respondent	Avg. burden per response (in hrs.)	Total burden (in hrs.)
1. Monkeypox Case Investigation Form .....	State/local health department.	81	1	30/60	41
2. Monkeypox Contact/Site Worksheet .....	Case Contacts .....	320	1	20/60	107
3. Monkeypox Contact Surveillance Form ....	Case Contacts .....	320	1	10/60	53
4. Vaccine .....	State/local health department.	100	1	15/60	25