

invites the public to comment on this proposed information collection.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by October 20, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted to: Cynthia D. McMichael, Reports Clearance Officer, AHRQ, 540 Gaither Road, Suite 5022, Rockville, MD 20850.

Copies of the proposed collection plans, data collection instruments, and specific details on the estimated burden can be obtained from AHRQ's Reports Clearance Officer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cynthia D. McMichael, AHRQ, Reports Clearance Officer, (301) 427-1651.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Proposed Project

“Surveys of Employee Benefit Managers of Large National Employers Concerning Dissemination Effectiveness

of Health Services Research Information (SEBM)”.

The SEBM is a series of two questionnaires and one telephone interview to learn the extent of awareness, use of, and satisfaction with the content of health services research information by employee benefits managers of large national employers. The surveys will also measure the effectiveness of the methods used to disseminate health services research information. The initial survey will serve as a benchmark against which the remaining two surveys in this study will be measured. Subsequent to the initial survey, AHRQ will initiate two interventions: (1) Placing AHRQ-sponsored information on a Web site and (2) making personal contact with employee benefits managers; a survey will follow each intervention to measure the extent to which each intervention makes employee benefit managers aware of AHRQ and its health research

information. With this knowledge, AHRQ will be able to make changes to its information dissemination efforts to make them more effective and responsive to employee benefit managers.

Data Confidentiality Provisions

Data collected by the contractor and the contractor's draft analyses will be retained for one year after final acceptance of all contract deliverables, unless longer retention is requested by the agency for audit purposes. All agency documents pertaining to the contract will be archived after the contract is completed and retained in accordance with a Federal Records Act retention schedule.

Methods of Collection

The data will be collected using a combination of web-based and telephone surveys.

ESTIMATED ANNUAL RESPONDENT BURDEN

Survey	Number of respondents	Estimated time per respondent in minutes	Estimated total burden hours	Estimated annual cost to the government
Initial Benchmark Survey	240	10	40	\$4000
Post Intervention Survey #1	45	10	7.5	750
Post Intervention Survey #2	240	10	40	4000
Total	525	10	87.5	8750

Request for Comments

In accordance with the above cited legislation, comments on AHRQ's information collection are requested with regard to any of the following: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of AHRQ, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of AHRQ's estimate of burden (including hours and cost) 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 upon the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval of the proposed information collection. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: August 14, 2003.

Carolyn M. Clancy,
Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Program Announcement 03110]

Enhancement of Laboratory Quality Assurance Programs for HIV/AIDS Testing in Countries Supported by the Global AIDS Program; Notice of Intent To Fund Single Eligibility Award

A. Purpose

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the intent to fund fiscal year (FY) 2003 funds for a cooperative agreement program for the enhancement of national laboratory quality assurance programs supporting HIV/AIDS testing for surveillance and prevention activities in countries supported by the Global AIDS Program

(GAP). The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number for this program is 93.939.

B. Eligible Applicant

Assistance will be provided only to the National Serology Reference Laboratory (NRL) in the Country of Australia. This announcement is restricted to the Australia NRL because it is a unique agency charged by the World Health Organization (WHO) with providing External Quality Assessment Schemes (EQAS), training, and technical assistance for HIV/AIDS laboratory testing to 100 national and regional reference laboratories in the Asia region and South Pacific.

C. Funding

Approximately \$150,000 is available in FY 2003 to fund this award. It is expected that the award will begin on or before September 15, 2003, and will be made for a 12-month budget period within a project period of up to three years. Funding estimates may change.