

V. Waiver of Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

The Medicare statute, as discussed previously, requires publication of the Medicare Part A hospital insurance premium for the upcoming calendar year during September of each year. The amounts are determined according to the statute. As has been our custom, we use general notices, rather than formal notice and comment rulemaking procedures, to make such announcements. In doing so, we acknowledge that, under the Administrative Procedure Act, interpretive rules, general statements of policy, and rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice are excepted from the requirements of notice and comment rulemaking.

We considered publishing a proposed notice to provide a period for public comment. However, we may waive that procedure if we find good cause that prior notice and comment are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest. We find that the procedure for notice and comment is unnecessary because the formula used to calculate the Part A hospital insurance premium is statutorily directed, and we can exercise no discretion in following that formula. Moreover, the statute established the time period for which the premium will apply and delaying publication of the premium amount would be contrary to the public interest. Therefore, we find good cause to waive publication of a proposed notice and solicitation of public comments.

VI. Impact Statement

This notice merely announces amounts required by legislation. This notice is not a proposed rule or a final rule issued after a proposal, and it does not alter any regulation or policy. Therefore, we have determined and certify that no analyses are required under Executive Order 12866, the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 through 612), or section 1102(b) of the Act.

In accordance with the provisions of Executive Order 12866, this notice was reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

Authority: Sections 1818(d)(2) and 1818A(d)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i-2(d)(2) and 1395i-2a(d)(2)). (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.773, Medicare—Hospital Insurance)

Dated: September 19, 1997.

Nancy-Ann Min DeParle,
Deputy Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration.

Dated: October 7, 1997.

Donna E. Shalala,
Secretary.
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given of the meeting of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) National Advisory Council in November 1997.

The meeting will include the review, discussion and evaluation of individual contract proposals, as well as a presentation and discussion of information about the Agency's procurement plans. Therefore, a portion of the meeting will be closed to the public as determined by the Administrator, SAMHSA, in accordance with Title 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (3), (4), and (6) and 5 U.S.C. App. 2, Section 10(d).

In addition, a portion of the SAMHSA National Advisory Council meeting will be open and include a presentation of certificates of appreciation to those members whose terms will end on November 30. Attendance by the public will be limited to space available. Public comments are welcome during the open session. Please communicate with the individual listed as contact below to make arrangements to comment or to request special accommodations for persons with disabilities.

Substantive program information, summary of the meeting and a roster of Council members may also be obtained from the contact whose name and telephone number is listed below.

Committee Name: SAMHSA National Advisory Council.

Meeting Date: November 13, 1997.

Place: Phoenix Park Hotel, 520 North Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001.

Closed: November 13, 1997, 1:00 p.m. to 4:20 p.m.

Open: November 13, 1997, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Contact: Toian Vaughn, Executive Secretary, Room 12C-15, Parklawn Building, Telephone: (301) 443-4640 and FAX: (301) 443-1450.

Dated: October 28, 1997.

Jeri Lipov,
Committee Management Officer, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to Pub. L. 92-463, notice is hereby given of the following meeting of the SAMHSA Special Emphasis Panel II in November, 1997.

A summary of the meeting may be obtained from: Ms. Dee Herman, Committee Management Liaison, SAMHSA, Office of Program Planning and Coordination (OPPC), Division of Extramural Activities Policy and Review, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 17-89, Rockville, Maryland 20857. Telephone: (301) 443-7390.

Substantive program information may be obtained from the individual named as Contact for the meeting listed below.

The meeting will include the review, discussion and evaluation of individual contract proposals. These discussions could reveal personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals and confidential and financial information about an individual's proposal. The discussion may also reveal information about procurement activities exempt from disclosure by statute and trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged and confidential. Accordingly, the meeting is concerned with matters exempt from mandatory disclosure in Title 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (3), (4), and (6) and 5 U.S.C. App. 2, § 10(d).

Committee Name: SAMHSA Special Emphasis Panel II.

Meeting Date: November 13, 1997.

Place: Residence Inn, Gate House Board Room, 335 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Closed: November 13, 1997, 9:00 a.m.—Adjournment.

Contact: Ferdinand W. Hui, Ph.D., Room 17-89, Parklawn Building, Telephone: (301) 443-2437 and FAX: (301) 443-3437.

Dated: October 28, 1997.

Jeri Lipov,
Committee Management Officer, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.
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