awareness of the benefits and risks of new, existing, or combined uses of therapeutics through education and research and to reduce costs. The CERTs were to disseminate their findings to inform, among others, insurers and government agencies, patients and consumers. Under 42 U.S.C. 299b–1(b), CERTs grantees were to gather, develop and provide evidence related to comparative effectiveness, cost effectiveness and safety of therapeutics. Thus, the mission and work of the CERTs is consistent with and addresses identified priority research requirements of the MMA section 1013. Accordingly, the expedite the conduct of priority research related to health care services and items including prescription drugs, as mandated by section 1013, AHRQ is seeking to carry out the initial work on a competitive basis with the benefit of the existing collaborative organizational frameworks and therapeutics expertise and specialization developed by CERTs with prior AHRQ support.

Review

AHRQ will consider requests from current CERTs research center grantees to develop short term supplemental research projects specifically gathering, summarizing and assessing available therapeutics evidence with respect to subjects identified as priorities pursuant to MMA section 1013 or formulating and/or addressing methodological issues pertinent to the production of evidence that is needed with research to these priority subject areas. *See http://www.medicare.gov/MedicareReform/researchtopics.asp.* These competitive applications for supplemental grant awards will undergo scientific and technical review using regular AHRQ peer review processes. In addition to criteria set forth in 42 CFR part 67, subpart A, § 67.15(c), the peer review evaluations and recommendations, in particular, will be based on adherence to the agenda and priorities established in accordance with section 1013 of the MMA.

Each center may submit a single application for supplemental support of a research project that address clinical or methodological issues pertaining to a knowledge gap regarding the comparative effectiveness of therapeutics for one or more of the ten priority clinical areas of interest to the Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP programs. Requests are to be limited to projects that can be completed in 12 months or less. Although each CERTs Research Center may be the primary applicant on any one application, AHRQ encourages partnerships between existing CERTs. The actual number of applications that will be funded is dependent on the number of high quality applications.

Dated: February 24, 2005

Carolyn M. Clancy,

Director.

[FR Doc. 05–4444 Filed 3–7–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–90–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Meeting of the ICD–9–CM Coordination and Maintenance Committee

National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Classifications and Public Health Data Standards Staff, announces the following meeting.

Name: ICD–9–CM Coordination and Maintenance Committee meeting.

Time and Date: 9 a.m.–4 p.m., March 31–April 1, 2005.

Place: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Auditorium, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland.

Status: Open to the public.

Purpose: The ICD–9–CM Coordination and Maintenance (C&M) Committee will hold its first meeting of the 2005 calendar year cycle on Thursday and Friday March 31–April 1, 2005. The C&M meeting is a public forum for the presentation of proposed modifications to the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth-Revision, Clinical Modification.

Matters to be Discussed: Agenda items include:

Sleep disorders
Epilepsy
Transfusion related lung injury (TRALI)
Failed hearing screening
Myelitis
Macrophage activation syndrome
Subtalar joint arthroereisis
360 degree spinal fusion
Implantation of interspinous process decompression device
Hip arthroplasty ''bearing surfaces
External fracture fixation devices
Endovascular implantation of graft in thoracic aorta Infusion of liquid radioisotope
Radiofrequency Total Occlusion Crossing System
ICD–10–Procedure Coding System (PCS) update Addenda

Contact Person for Additional Information: Amy Blum, Medical Systems Specialist, Classifications and Public Health Data Standards Staff, NCHS, 3311 Toledo Road, Room 2402, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782, telephone (301) 458–4106 (diagnosis), Amy Gruber, Health Insurance Specialist, Division of Acute Care, CMS, 7500 Security Blvd., Room C4–07–07, Baltimore, Maryland 21244 telephone (410) 786–1542 (procedures).

Notice: Because of increased security requirements,(CMS) has instituted stringent procedures for entrance into the building by non-government employees. Persons without a government I.D. will need to show an official form of picture I.D., (such as a drivers license), and sign-in at the security desk upon entering the building.

Those who wish to attend a specific ICD–9–CM C&M meeting in the CMS auditorium must submit their name and organization for addition to the meeting visitor list. Those wishing to attend the March 31–April 1, 2005 meeting must submit their name and organization by March 29, 2005 for inclusion on the visitor list. This visitor list will be maintained at the front desk of the CMS building and used by the guards to admit visitors to the meeting. Those who attended previous ICD–9–CM C&M meetings will no longer be automatically added to the visitor list. You must request inclusion of your name prior to each meeting you attend. Register to attend the meeting on-line at: *http://cms.hhs.gov/events.*

Notice: This is a public meeting. However, because of fire code requirements, should the number of attendants meet the capacity of the room, the meeting will be closed.

The Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, has been delegated the authority to sign **Federal Register** notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities, for both CDC and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Dated: March 2, 2005.

Alvin Hall,

Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

[FR Doc. 05–4428 Filed 3–7–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–18–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Allergenic Products Advisory Committee; Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.