

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[60Day-02-45]

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.

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 Anne O'Connor, CDC Assistant Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road, MS-D24, Atlanta, GA 30333. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Proposed Project: National Hospital Discharge Survey OMB No. 0920-0212—Extension—National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The National Hospital Discharge Survey (NHDS), which has been conducted continuously by the National Center for Health Statistics, CDC, since 1965, is the principal source of data on in-patient utilization of short-stay, non-Federal hospitals and is the only annual source of nationally representative estimates on the characteristics of discharges, the lengths of stay, diagnoses, surgical and non-surgical procedures, and the patterns of use of care in hospitals in various regions of the country. It is the benchmark against which special programmatic data sources are compared. Data collected through the NHDS are essential for evaluating health status of the population, for the planning of programs and policy to elevate the health status of the Nation,

for studying morbidity trends, and for research activities in the health field. NHDS data have been used extensively in the development and monitoring of goals for the Year 2000 and 2010 Health Objectives. In addition, NHDS data provide annual updates for numerous tables in the Congressionally-mandated NCHS report, Health, United States. Data for the NHDS are collected annually on approximately 300,000 discharges from a nationally representative sample of noninstitutional hospitals, exclusive of Federal, military and Veterans' Administration hospitals. The data items collected are the basic core of variables contained in the Uniform Hospital Discharge Data Set (UHDDS) in addition to two data items (admission type and source) which are identical to those needed for billing of in-patient services for Medicare patients. Data for approximately forty-five percent of the responding hospitals are abstracted from medical records while the remainder of the hospitals supply data through commercial abstract service organizations, state data systems, in-house tapes or printouts. There is no actual cost to respondents since hospital staff who actively participate in the data collection effort are compensated by the government for their time.

Medical record abstracts	Number of respondents (hospitals)	Number of responses/respondent	Average burden/response (in hours)	Total burden hours
Primary Procedure Hospitals	68	250	5/60	1,417
Alternate Procedure Hospitals	130	250	1/60	542
In-House Tape or Printout Hospitals	80	12	12/60	192
Update Form (Abstract Service Hospital)	156	2	2/60	10
Induction Forms	15	1	2	30
Special Studies	100	23	12/60	460
Total				2,651

Dated: April 19, 2002.

Nancy E. Cheal,

Acting Associate Director for Policy, Planning and Evaluation Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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[60Day-02-44]

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