

how well they meet the required qualifications and the current expertise needs of the USPSTF. It is anticipated that new members will be invited to serve on the USPSTF beginning in January, 2024. All nominated individuals will be considered; however, strongest consideration will be given to individuals with demonstrated training and expertise in the areas of Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Geriatrics, and Family Medicine. AHRQ will retain and may consider for future vacancies nominations received this year and not selected during this cycle.

Some USPSTF members without primary health care clinical experience may be selected based on their expertise in methodological issues such as meta-analysis, analytic modeling, or clinical epidemiology. For individuals with clinical expertise in primary health care, additional qualifications in methodology would enhance their candidacy.

Background

Under Title IX of the Public Health Service Act, AHRQ is charged with enhancing the quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of health care services and access to such services. 42 U.S.C. 299(b). AHRQ accomplishes these goals through scientific research and promotion of improvements in clinical practice, including clinical prevention of diseases and other health conditions. See 42 U.S.C. 299(b).

The USPSTF, an independent body of experts in prevention and evidence-based medicine, works to improve the health of all Americans by making evidence-based recommendations about the effectiveness of clinical preventive services and health promotion. The recommendations made by the USPSTF address clinical preventive services for adults and children, and include screening tests, counseling services, and preventive medications.

The USPSTF was first established in 1984 under the auspices of the U.S. Public Health Service. Currently, the USPSTF is convened by the Director of AHRQ, and AHRQ provides ongoing scientific, administrative, and dissemination support for the USPSTF's operation. See 42 U.S.C. 299b-4(a)(1). USPSTF members are invited to serve four year terms. New members are selected each year to replace those members who are completing their appointments.

The USPSTF rigorously evaluates the effectiveness of clinical preventive services and formulating or updating recommendations regarding the appropriate provision of preventive services. Current USPSTF

recommendations and associated evidence reviews are available on the internet (www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org).

USPSTF members meet three times a year for two days in the Washington, DC area or virtually if necessary. A significant portion of the USPSTF's work occurs between meetings during conference calls and via email discussions. Member duties include prioritizing topics, designing research plans, reviewing and commenting on systematic evidence reviews, discussing evidence and making recommendations on preventive services, reviewing stakeholder comments, drafting final recommendation documents, and participating in workgroups on specific topics and methods. Members can expect to receive frequent emails, can expect to participate in multiple conference calls each month, and can expect to have periodic interaction with stakeholders. AHRQ estimates that members devote approximately 250 hours a year outside of in-person meetings to their USPSTF duties. The members are all volunteers and do not receive any compensation beyond support for travel to attend the thrice yearly meetings and trainings.

Dated: December 27, 2022.

Marquita Cullom,

Associate Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[Document Identifier: CMS-10744]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is announcing an opportunity for the public to comment on CMS' intention to collect information from the public. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information, and to allow a second opportunity for public

comment on the notice. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including the necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions, the accuracy of the estimated burden, ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

DATES: Comments on the collection(s) of information must be received by the OMB desk officer by January 30, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

To obtain copies of a supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed collection(s) summarized in this notice, please access the CMS PRA website by copying and pasting the following web address into your web browser: <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/PaperworkReductionActof1995/PRA-Listing>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Parham at (410) 786-4669.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. The term "collection of information" is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)) requires Federal agencies to publish a 30-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, CMS is publishing this notice that summarizes the following proposed collection(s) of information for public comment:

1. *Type of Information Collection Request:* Revision of a currently

approved collection; *Title:* Medicare Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Competitive Bidding Program—Contracting Forms; *Use:* Since 1989, Medicare has been paying for durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) (other than customized items) using fee schedule amounts that are calculated for each item or category of DMEPOS identified by a Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code. Payments are based on the average DMEPOS supplier charges on Medicare claims from 1986 and 1987 and are updated annually on a factor legislated by Congress. For many years, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Office of Inspector General (OIG) of the United States (U.S.) Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) have reported that these fees are often highly inflated and that Medicare has paid higher than market rates for several different types of DMEPOS. Due to reports of Medicare overpayment of DMEPOS, Congress required that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) conduct a competitive bidding demonstration project for these items. Accordingly, CMS implemented a demonstration project for this program from 1999–2002 which produced significant savings for beneficiaries and taxpayers without hindering access to DMEPOS and related services. Shortly after the successful competitive bidding demonstrations, Congress passed the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA) and mandated a phased-in approach to implement this program over the course of several years beginning in 2007 in 10 metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs). This statute specifically required the Secretary to establish and implement programs under which competitive bidding areas (CBAs) are established throughout the U.S. for contract award purposes for the furnishing of certain competitively priced items and services for which payment is made under Medicare Part B. This program is commonly known as the Medicare DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program (the Program).

CMS conducted its first round of bidding, Round 1, for the Program in 2007 with the help of its contractor, the Competitive Bidding Implementation Contractor (CBIC). CMS published a Request for Bids (RFB) and instructions for DMEPOS suppliers to submit their bids to participate in the Program. During this first round of bidding, DMEPOS suppliers from across the U.S.

submitted bids to furnish competitively bid item(s) to Medicare beneficiaries residing or traveling to Round 1 CBAs. CMS evaluated these bids and contracted with those bidders that met all program requirements. Round 1 was successfully implemented on July 1, 2008.

On July 15, 2008, however, Congress delayed the Program in section 154 of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA). MIPPA mandated certain changes to the Program which included, but was not limited to: a delay of Round 1 (competition to begin in 2009) and Round 2 of the Program (competition to begin in 2011 in 70 specific MSAs); the exclusion of Puerto Rico and negative pressure wound therapy from Round 1 and Group 3 complex rehabilitative power wheelchairs from all rounds of competition; a process for providing feedback to bidders regarding missing financial documentation; and a requirement for contract suppliers to disclose to CMS information regarding subcontracting relationships. Section 154 of MIPPA specified that the competition for national mail-order (NMO) items and services may be phased in after 2010. This section of MIPPA also specified that competitions to phase-in additional areas could occur after 2011. As required by MIPPA, CMS conducted the competition for the Round 1 Rebid in 2009. The Round 1 Rebid contracts and prices became effective on January 1, 2011. The Affordable Care Act (ACA), enacted on March 23, 2010, expanded the Round 2 competition by adding an additional 21 MSAs, bringing the total MSAs for Round 2 to 91. The competition for Round 2 began in December 2011. CMS also began a NMO competition for diabetes testing supplies (DTS) at the same time as Round 2. The Round 2 and NMO DTS contracts and prices were implemented on July 1, 2013.

The MMA requires the Secretary to recompile contracts not less often than once every three years. The Round 1 Rebid contract period for all product categories except NMO DTS expired on December 31, 2013. (Round 1 Rebid contracts for NMO DTS ended on December 31, 2012.) The competition for the Round 1 Recompete began in August of 2012 and contracts and prices became effective on January 1, 2014. The Round 1 Recompete contract period expired on December 31, 2016. Round 1 2017 contracts were effective on January 1, 2017, and expired on December 31, 2018. Round 2 and NMO DTS contracts and prices expired on June 30, 2016. Round 2 Recompete and the NMO DTS Recompete contracts became effective

on July 1, 2016, and expired on December 31, 2018.

On October 31, 2018, CMS issued a final rule (CMS–1691–F) requiring changes to bidding and pricing methodologies to be implemented under the next round of the Program. As a result, starting January 1, 2019, there was a temporary gap in the entire Program that lasted two years until December 31, 2020. When the program resumed in January 2021, CMS implemented a consolidated round of competition to include most Round 1 2017 and Round 2 Recompete CBAs for Round 2021. However, due to the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID–19) pandemic, and the unexpected bid evaluation results, CMS only awarded Round 2021 contracts for two product categories: Off-The-Shelf (OTS) Back and OTS Knee Braces. As a result, this Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) package reflects a significant reduction in burden, compared to previous packages, for Round 2021 which was implemented on January 1, 2021, and will conclude on December 31, 2023. This iteration of the package currently approved under OMB control number 0938–1408 is based on data from the first year of Round 2021 (January 1, 2021–December 31, 2021). *Form Number:* CMS–10744 (OMB control number: 0938–1408); *Frequency:* Occasionally; *Affected Public:* Private sector (Business or other for profits and Not-for-profit institutions); *Number of Respondents:* 179; *Total Annual Responses:* 121,407; *Total Annual Hours:* 97,069. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Joe Bryson at 410–786–2986.)

Dated: December 27, 2022.

William N. Parham, III,
Director, Paperwork Reduction Staff, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Submission for Office of Management and Budget Review; Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program: Guidance for Submitting an Annual Report to the Secretary (Office of Management and Budget #0970–0409)

AGENCY: Office of Early Childhood Development, Administration for