SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Information Collection Request Title: Small Rural Hospital Transitions Project OMB No. 0906–xxxx—NEW

Abstract: Under Section 330A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254c(e)), the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) funds grant programs supporting expanding access to, and improving the quality of essential health care services in rural and frontier communities. Small rural hospitals are facing many challenges in the new health care environment, including the concurrent need to better measure and account for quality of care in all settings; improving transitions of care as patients move from one care setting to another; adopting new payment approaches such as value-based purchasing; and tailoring operations to the new approaches to care delivery, such as accountable care organizations (ACO) and patient-centered medical homes. Success in this new environment will require bridging the gaps between the current system and the newly emerging system of healthcare delivery and payment. Because little is known about how these new models might impact rural communities, there is a need to help hospitals understand and consider those factors that would make them logical participants in health care systems that focus on value. The Small Rural Hospital Transitions (SRHT) Project will assist small rural hospitals in making the transition. The purpose of the project is to provide on-site technical assistance to nine small rural hospitals located in persistent poverty counties. Technical assistance will be provided in the areas of: (1) Financial assessments, (2) creating a quality-focused environment, (3) aligning services to community need, and, (4) to the extent that financial and quality core areas have been stabilized, assistance to help the hospitals consider factors that would make them logical participants in health care systems that focus on value (for example ACOs, shared savings programs, primary care medical homes).

Need and Proposed Use of the Information: The information will be solicited in the form of the SRHT Project Technical Assistance Online Application form and the supporting hospital assessment, Performance Excellence for Rural Hospitals. All small rural hospitals desiring to apply for on-site technical assistance through SRHT will be required to complete the application and the survey. The applicant’s information will be scored and ranked to aid in the selection of nine small rural hospitals to receive on-site technical assistance. Both the application form and the hospital assessment are designed to ensure the selection of hospital applicants consistent with established eligibility criteria and hospitals readiness or ability to implement consultant’s recommendations.

A 60-day Federal Register Notice was published in the Federal Register on June 24, 2016 (81 FR 41315). There were no public comments.

Likely Respondents: Small rural hospitals located in a rural community, as defined by FORHP, persistent poverty county, or a rural census tract of a metro persistent poverty county; have 49 staffed beds or less as reported on the hospital’s most recently filed Medicare Cost Report. Hospitals; and for-profit or not-for-profit.

Burden Statement: Burden in this context means the time expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose or provide the information requested. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to develop, acquire, install and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information; to search data sources; to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information. The total annual burden hours estimated for this ICR are summarized in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form name</th>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
<th>Number of responses per respondent</th>
<th>Total responses</th>
<th>Average burden per response (in hours)</th>
<th>Total burden hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SRHT Project Technical Assistance Online Application</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>1140</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment: Performance Excellence for Rural Hospitals</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>.25</td>
<td>217.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>*30</td>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td></td>
<td>787.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The same individuals complete the SRHT Online Application and the Assessment for a total of 30 respondents.
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Information: NTP requests information on four substances that have been nominated for possible review for future editions of the RoC (see http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/rocnom); three of these four substances are also under consideration for evaluation of non-cancer health outcomes (see http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/763340). The four nominations are:

- Consumption of red meat: cancer and non-cancer health hazard evaluations.
- Consumption of processed meat: cancer and non-cancer health hazard evaluations.
- Antimony trioxide: cancer hazard evaluation.
- Consumption of meat cooked at high temperatures: cancer and non-cancer health hazard evaluations.

Cancer hazard evaluation of a substance for the RoC may seek to list a new substance in the report, reclassify the listing status of a substance already listed, or remove a listed substance.

Specifically, NTP requests information on: (1) Current production, use patterns, and human exposure estimates for antimony trioxide; (2) data on dietary intake estimates of red meat, processed meat, or meat cooked at high temperatures; and for all four nominations (3) recently published, ongoing, or planned studies related to evaluating adverse health outcomes (e.g., cancer, development, reproductive, or immunological disorders); (4) scientific issues important for prioritizing and assessing adverse health outcomes; and (5) names of scientists with expertise or knowledge on any of these substances—please indicate the substance and include any bibliographic citations when available. NTP will use this information in determining which substances to propose for formal health hazard evaluations.

Information on substances for possible review should be submitted electronically at http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/778417 or emailed to Dr. Lunn or Dr. Boyd (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT). Contact information for comments should include the submitter’s name, affiliation, sponsoring organization (if any), telephone, and email. Written information received in response to this notice will be posted on the NTP Web site, and the submitter identified by name, affiliation, and/or sponsoring organization. Guidelines for public comments are at http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/ntp/about_ntp/guidelines_public_comments_508.pdf.

Responses to this request for information are voluntary. This request for information is for planning purposes only and is not a solicitation for applications or an obligation on the part of the U.S. Government to provide support for any ideas identified in response to it. Please note that the U.S. Government will not pay for the preparation of any information submitted or for its use. No proprietary, classified, confidential, or sensitive information should be included in your response.

Background Information on ORoC: On behalf of NTP, ORoC prepares the RoC following an established, four-part process (http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/rocprocess). The RoC is a congressionally mandated, science-based, public health report that identifies agents, substances, mixtures, or exposures (collectively called “substances”) in our environment that pose a cancer hazard for people in the United States. Published biennially, each edition of the RoC is cumulative and consists of substances newly reviewed in addition to those listed in previous editions. Newly reviewed substances with their recommended listing are reviewed and approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. The 13th RoC, the latest edition, was published on October 2, 2014 (available at http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/roc13). The 14th RoC is under development.

Background Information on OHAT: On behalf of NTP, OHAT conducts literature-based evaluations to assess the evidence whether environmental chemicals, physical substances, or mixtures (collectively called “substances”) cause adverse non-cancer health outcomes. As part of these evaluations, NTP may also provide opinions on whether these substances might be of concern for causing adverse effects on human health given what is known about toxicity and current human exposure levels. Information about OHAT can be found at http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/ohat.

Dated: September 6, 2016.

John R. Bucher,
Associate Director, National Toxicology Program.

[FR Doc. 2016–21608 Filed 9–8–16; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Government-Owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The inventions listed below are owned by an agency of the U.S. Government and are available for licensing in the U.S. in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR part 404 to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of federally-funded research and development.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Licensing information may be obtained by emailing the indicated licensing contact at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood, Office of Technology Transfer and Development Office of Technology Transfer, 31 Center Drive, Room 4A29, MSC2479, Bethesda, MD 20892–2479; telephone: 301–402–5579. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement may be required to receive any unpublished information.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Technology description follows.

Reagent for Mapping Genome-Wide Enhancer-Promoter Interactions

This invention is a research reagent named the “bivalent Tn5 complex” used in transposition-mediated analysis of chromatin looping (TrAC-looping) to determine genome-wide enhancer-promoter interactions during studies of 4D nucleosomes in normal development and disease conditions. Enhancer-promoter interactions are key in temporospatial control of gene expression during normal development and pathological conditions. Currently available methods of analyzing genome-wide enhancer-promoter interactions are insufficient in achieving necessary resolution, give rise to false positive artifacts due to in vitro ligation steps, or too expensive due to the necessity of sequencing over a billion reads. The instant reagent and associated TrAC-looping technique effectively reduce false positive detection and achieve a 10 to 100-times higher resolution at lower cost for mapping genome-wide interactions between enhancers and promotes essential for the control of gene expression in normal development and pathological conditions.

References