FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Osmahn Kadri, Regional Environmental Quality Advisor/NEPA Project Manager, 50 United Nations Plaza, 3345, Mailbox #9, San Francisco, CA, 94102, or via email to osmahn.kadri@gsa.gov.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (BSC NCIPC); Correction

Notice is hereby given of a change in the meeting of the Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (BSC NCIPC); December 12, 2018, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., EST, which was published in the Federal Register on November 2, 2018 Volume 83, Number 213, page 55171. The registration information should read as follows: Due to the limited availability of phone line ports, we are encouraging the public to please register using the link provided: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/J6LJX7.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Gwendolyn H. Cattledge, Ph.D., M.S.E.H., Deputy Associate Director for Science, NCIPC, CDC, 4770 Buford Highway NE, Mailstop F–63, Atlanta, GA 30341, Telephone (770) 488–1430. Email address: ncipcbsc@cdc.gov.

Sherri Berger,
Chief Operating Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has been delegated the authority to sign Federal Register notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities, for both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (BSC NCEH/ATSDR)

AGENCY: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the CDC announces the following meeting for the Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances
and Disease Registry (BSC, NCEH/ATSDR). This meeting is open to the public, limited only by available seating. The meeting room accommodates approximately 60 people. The public is also welcome to listen to the meeting by calling 800–619–8521, passcode 7019704, limited by 100 lines. The deadline for notification of attendance is December 3, 2018. The public comment period is scheduled on December 12, 2018 from 2:30 p.m. until 2:45 p.m., EST and December 13, 2018 from 10:10 a.m. until 10:25 a.m., EST. Individuals wishing to make a comment during Public Comment period, please email your name, organization, and phone number by November 30, 2018 to Amanda Malasky at amalasky@cdc.gov.

DATES: The meeting will be held on December 12, 2018, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., EST and December 13, 2018, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., EST.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 4770 Buford Highway, Atlanta, Georgia 30341–3717 (Building 106, Conference Room 1B).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shirly Little, Program Analyst, NCEH/ATSDR, CDC, 4770 Buford Highway, Mailstop P–45, Atlanta, Georgia 30341–3717, Telephone (770) 488–0577; Email snl7@cdc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Purpose: The Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and by delegation, the Director, CDC, and Administrator, NCEH/ATSDR, are authorized under Section 301 (42 U.S.C. 241) and Section 311 (42 U.S.C. 243) of the Public Health Service Act, as amended, to: (1) Conduct, encourage, cooperate with, and assist other appropriate public authorities, scientific institutions, and scientists in the conduct of research, investigations, experiments, demonstrations, and studies relating to the causes, diagnosis, treatment, control, and prevention of physical and mental diseases and other impairments; (2) assist states and their political subdivisions in the prevention of infectious diseases and other preventable conditions and in the promotion of health and wellbeing; and (3) train state and local personnel in health work. The BSC, NCEH/ATSDR provides advice and guidance to the Secretary, HHS; the Director, CDC and Administrator, ATSDR; and the Director, NCEH/ATSDR, regarding program goals, objectives, strategies, and priorities in fulfillment of the agency’s mission to protect and promote people’s health. The board provides advice and guidance that will assist NCEH/ATSDR in ensuring scientific quality, timeliness, utility, and dissemination of results. The board also provides guidance to help NCEH/ATSDR work more efficiently and effectively with its various constituents and to fulfill its mission in protecting America’s health.

Matters To Be Considered: The agenda will include discussions on NCEH/ATSDR Program Responses to BSC Guidance and Action Items, ATSDR Tox Profiles, Federal Strategy on Lead, Cancer Clusters, PFAS Community of Practice, Open Data, and National Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit Program. Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

The Chief Operating Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has been delegated the authority to sign Federal Register notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities, for both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Sheri A. Berger, Chief Operating Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

[FR Doc. 2018–25134 Filed 11–16–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4163–19–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS–3358–FN]
Medicare and Medicaid Programs: Application From the American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities, Inc. (AAAASF) for Continued Approval of Its Ambulatory Surgical Center Accreditation Program

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This final notice announces our decision to approve the American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities, Inc. (AAAASF) for continued recognition as a national accrediting organization for ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs) that wish to participate in the Medicare or Medicaid programs.

DATES: This notice is applicable November 27, 2018 through November 27, 2024.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Under the Medicare program, eligible beneficiaries may receive covered services in an Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) provided certain requirements are met. Sections 1832(a)(2)(F)(i) of the Social Security Act (the Act) establishes distinct criteria for facilities seeking designation as an ASC. Regulations concerning provider agreements are at 42 CFR part 489 and those pertaining to activities relating to the survey and certification of facilities are at 42 CFR part 486. The regulations at 42 CFR part 416, specify the conditions that an ASC must meet in order to participate in the Medicare program, the scope of covered services and the conditions for Medicare payment for ASCs.

Generally, to enter into an agreement, an ASC must first be certified as complying with the conditions set forth in part 416 and recommended to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for participation by a state survey agency. Thereafter, the ASC is subject to periodic surveys by a state survey agency to determine whether it continues to meet these conditions. However, there is an alternative to certification surveys by state agencies. Accreditation by a nationally recognized Medicare accreditation program approved by CMS may substitute for both initial and ongoing state review.

Section 1865(a)(1) of the Act provides that, if the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services finds that accreditation of a provider entity by an approved national accrediting organization meets or exceeds all applicable Medicare conditions, we may treat the provider entity as having met those conditions, that is, we may “deem” the provider entity to be in compliance. Accreditation by an accrediting organization is voluntary and is not required for Medicare participation.

Part 488, subpart A, implements the provisions of section 1865 of the Act and requires that a national accrediting organization applying for approval of its Medicare accreditation program must provide CMS with reasonable assurance that the accrediting organization requires its accredited provider entities to meet requirements that are at least as stringent as the Medicare conditions. Our regulations concerning the approval of accrediting organizations are set forth at § 488.3.

II. Application Approval Process

Section 1865(a)(3)(A) of the Act provides a statutory timetable to ensure that our review of applications for CMS-