

**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 of Information Collection:* Medicare Health Outcomes Survey Field Test; *Use:* CMS is required to collect and report quality and performance of Medicare health plans under provisions of the Social Security Act. Specifically, Section 1851(d) of the Act (Providing Information to Promote Informed Choice) requires CMS to collect data for MA plan comparison, including data on enrollee satisfaction and health outcomes, and report this information and other plan quality and performance indicators to Medicare beneficiaries prior to the annual enrollment period.<sup>6</sup> The HOS meets the requirement for collecting and publicly reporting quality and other performance indicators, as HOS survey measures are incorporated into the Medicare Part C Star Ratings that are published each fall for consumers on the Medicare website.

The data collected in this field test will be used by CMS to inform decisions on possible changes to HOS content and survey administration procedures. The items in the questionnaire reflect current health priorities and would provide CMS with data to study new longitudinal PROMs, cross-sectional measures, and enhancements to existing HOS measures for MA plans to use as a focus of their quality improvement efforts. Potential new measures derived from new HOS items will go through the Measures Under Consideration (MUC) process and rulemaking before they are

added to Star Ratings. *Form Number:* CMS-10861 (OMB control number: 0938-1464); *Frequency:* Once; *Affected Public:* Individuals and Households; *Number of Respondents:* 50; *Number of Responses:* 6,800; *Total Annual Hours:* 1,700. (For questions regarding this collection, contact Alyssa Rosen at (410) 786-8559 or [Alyssa.rosen@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Alyssa.rosen@cms.hhs.gov)).

**2. Type of Information Collection**  
*Request:* Reinstatement without change of a previously approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Hospital Notice: Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (MOON); *Use:* The Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (MOON), serves as the written notice component of this mandatory notification process. The standardized content of the MOON includes all informational elements required by statute, in language understandable to beneficiaries, and fulfills the regulatory requirements at 42 CFR part 489.20(y).

The MOON is a standardized notice delivered to people entitled to Medicare benefits under Title XVIII of the Act who receive more than 24 hours of observation services, informing them that their hospital stay is outpatient and not inpatient, and the implications of being an outpatient. *Form Number:* CMS-10611 (OMB control number 0938-1308); *Frequency:* Annually; *Affected Public:* Private sector, Business or other for-profits and Not-for-profits institutions; *Number of Respondents:* 5,817; *Number of Responses:* 2,073,991; *Total Annual Hours:* 518,498. (For questions regarding this collection, contact: Stephanie Simons at 206-615-2420 or [stephanie.simons@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:stephanie.simons@cms.hhs.gov)).

**William N. Parham, III,**

*Director, Division of Information Collections and Regulatory Impacts, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.*

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

[Document Identifier: CMS-10609]

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; 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 60 days for public comment on the proposed action. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding our burden estimates 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 must be received by February 6, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** When commenting, please reference the document identifier or OMB control number. To be assured consideration, comments and recommendations must be submitted in any one of the following ways:

1. *Electronically.* You may send your comments electronically to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for "Comment or Submission" or "More Search Options" to find the information collection document(s) that are accepting comments.

2. *By regular mail.* You may mail written comments to the following address: CMS, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Division of Regulations Development, Attention: Document Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_ OMB Control Number: \_\_\_\_\_, Room C4-26-05, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

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 N. Parham at (410) 786-4669.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## Contents

This notice sets out a summary of the use and burden associated with the following information collections. More detailed information can be found in each collection's supporting statement and associated materials (see **ADDRESSES**).

Under the 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 requires federal agencies to publish a 60-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.

## Information Collections

1. *Type of Information Collection Request*: Extension of a currently approved collection; Title of Information Collection: Medicaid Program Face-to-Face Requirements for Home Health Services and Supporting Regulations; *Use*: Physicians (or for medical equipment, authorized non-physician practitioners (NPPs) including nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, and physician assistants) must document that there was a face-to-face encounter with the Medicaid beneficiary prior to the physician making a certification that home health services are required. The burden associated with this requirement is the time and effort to complete this documentation. The burden also includes writing, typing, or dictating the face-to-face documentation and signing/dating the documentation.

Section 3708 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act permits nurse practitioners (NPs), clinical nurse specialists (CNSs), and physician assistants (PAs) to certify the need for home health services and to order services in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. As such, under CMS–5531–IFC, CMS amended 42 CFR 440.70 to remove the requirement that the NPPs have to communicate the clinical finding of the face-to-face encounter to the ordering physician. With expanding authority to order home

health services, the CARES Act also provided that such practitioners are now capable of independently performing the face-to-face encounter for the patient for whom they are the ordering practitioner, in accordance with state law.

*Form Number*: CMS–10609 (OMB control number: 0938–1319); *Frequency*: Occasionally; *Affected Public*: Private sector; *Number of Respondents*: 381,785; *Total Annual Responses*: 2,495,355; *Total Annual Hours*: 416,724. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Alexandra Eitel at 410–786–0790.)

**William N. Parham, III,**

*Director, Division of Information Collections and Regulatory Impacts, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[Document Identifiers: CMS–10398 Nos. 17, 37, and 96]

#### Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Generic Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

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

**ACTION**: Notice.

**SUMMARY**: On May 28, 2010, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) guidance related to the “generic” clearance process. Generally, this is an expedited process by which agencies may obtain OMB's approval of collection of information requests that are “usually voluntary, low-burden, and uncontroversial collections,” do not raise any substantive or policy issues, and do not require policy or methodological review. The process requires the submission of an overarching plan that defines the scope of the individual collections that would fall under its umbrella. On October 23, 2011, OMB approved our initial request to use the generic clearance process under control number 0938–1148 (CMS–10398). It was last approved on April 26, 2021, via the standard PRA process which included the publication of 60- and 30-day **Federal Register** notices. The scope of the April 2021 umbrella accounts for Medicaid and

CHIP State plan amendments, waivers, demonstrations, and reporting. This **Federal Register** notice seeks public comment on one or more of our collection of information requests that we believe are generic and fall within the scope of the umbrella. Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding our burden estimates 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 must be received by December 22, 2025.

**ADDRESSES**: When commenting, please reference the applicable form number (CMS–10398 #\_\_\_\_) and the OMB control number (0938–1148). To be assured consideration, comments and recommendations must be submitted in any one of the following ways:

1. *Electronically*. You may send your comments electronically to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for “Comment or Submission” or “More Search Options” to find the information collection document(s) that are accepting comments.

2. *By regular mail*. You may mail written comments to the following address: CMS, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Division of Regulations Development, Attention: CMS–10398 #\_\_\_\_/OMB control number: 0938–1148, Room C4–26–05, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244–1850.

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/PRAListing>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**: William N. Parham at (410) 786–4669.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**: Following is a summary of the use and burden associated with the subject information collection(s). More detailed information can be found in the collection's supporting statement and associated materials (see **ADDRESSES**).