

**SUMMARY:** On October 5, 1999, the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service published proposed regulations guiding land and resource management planning on national forests and grasslands (64 FR 54073). The Forest Service is scheduling 23 national town hall meetings to discuss the proposed planning regulations.

**DATES:** The town hall meetings are scheduled from October 26 through December 9.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held at the locations and times listed in the

**table under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

Written comments on the proposed planning regulations can be sent to the following: via mail at CAET-USDA, Attn. Planning Rule, Forest Service, USDA 200 East Broadway, Room 103, PO Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807; via email at planreg/wo\_\_caet@fs.fed.us; or via facsimile at (406) 329-3021.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bob Cunningham, telephone: (202) 205-2494.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The 23 town hall meetings will provide an opportunity for the public to learn about the proposed planning regulations. Participants will be briefed on major themes of the proposed regulations which were published in the **Federal Register** on October 5, 1999 (64 FR 54073).

The meetings will be held at the locations and times listed in the following table:

Date	City	Location	Time
Tuesday, October 26 .....	St. Louis, MO .....	St. Louis Airport Hilton, 10330 Natural Bridge Road ....	6-9 p.m.
Tuesday, October 26 .....	Hanover, NH .....	Dartmouth College, Kendall Lounge .....	6-9 p.m.
Thursday, October 28 .....	Duluth, MN .....	Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center, 350 Harbor Drive.	6-9 p.m.
Monday, November 1 .....	Boise, ID .....	Owyhee Plaza Hotel, 1109 Main Street .....	6-9 p.m.
Tuesday, November 2 .....	Olympia, WA .....	Olympic National Forest Headquarters, 1835 Black Lake Boulevard, SW.	6-9 p.m.
Thursday, November 4 .....	Juneau, AK .....	Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center, Glacier Spur Road	6-9 p.m.
Thursday, November 4 .....	Salem, OR .....	Quality Inn Salem, 3301 Market Street, NE .....	6-9 p.m.
Tuesday, November 9 .....	Casper, WY .....	Parkway Plaza, I-25 & Center Street .....	6-9 p.m.
Wednesday, November 10 .....	Reno, NV .....	Sands Regency Hotel, 345 North Arlington Avenue ....	6-9 p.m.
Saturday, November 13 .....	Los Angeles, CA .....	Los Angeles River Center, 570 West Avenue 26 .....	9 a.m.-12 noon.
Saturday, November 13 .....	Denver, CO .....	Rocky Mountain Regional Office, USDA Forest Service Auditorium, 740 Simms Lakewood, CO.	9 a.m.-12 noon.
Tuesday, November 16 .....	Little Rock, AR .....	Hilton Inn, 925 South University .....	6-9 p.m.
Tuesday, November 16 .....	Bozeman, MT .....	Holiday Inn, 5 Baxter Lane .....	6-9 p.m.
Thursday, November 18 .....	Jackson, MS .....	Ramada Inn Southwest Conference Center, Ellis Avenue and I-20 West.	6-9 p.m.
Thursday, November 18 .....	Missoula, MT .....	4B's Inn, Missoula South, 3803 Brooks Street .....	6-9 p.m.
Saturday, November 20 .....	Coeur d'Alene, ID .....	Idaho Panhandle National Forest Headquarters, 3815 Schreiber Way.	9 a.m.-12 noon.
Tuesday, November 30 .....	Montrose, CO .....	Montrose Pavilion, 1800 Pavilion Drive .....	6-9 p.m.
Wednesday, December 1 ...	Grayling, MI .....	Grayling Holiday Inn, 2650 I-75 Business Loop .....	6-9 p.m.
Thursday, December 2 .....	Albuquerque, MN .....	Albuquerque Convention Center, 401 Second Street, NW.	6-9 p.m.
Saturday, December 4 .....	Asheville, NC .....	North Carolina Arboretum, 100 Fredrick Law Olmstead Way.	9 a.m.-12 noon.
Tuesday, December 7 .....	Salt Lake City, UT .....	Hilton Hotel, 150 West, 500 South .....	6-9 p.m.
Thursday, December 9 .....	Sacramento, CA .....	Sacramento Convention Center, 1030 Fifteenth Street	6-9 p.m.
Thursday, December 9 .....	Phoenix, AZ .....	Chaparral Suites Hotel, 5001 North Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale.	6-9 p.m.

Dated: October 14, 1999.

**Gloria Manning,**

*Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.*

[FR Doc. 99-27252 Filed 10-18-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Public Health Service**

**42 CFR Part 8**

[Docket No. 98N-0617]

**Narcotic Drugs in Maintenance and Detoxification Treatment of Narcotic Dependence; Repeal of Current Regulations and Proposal To Adopt New Regulations; Notice of Public Hearing**

**AGENCIES:** Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of public hearing.

**SUMMARY:** The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse

Treatment (CSAT) in conjunction with the Food and Drug Administration and other Federal agencies will convene a public hearing on proposed regulations for opioid drugs in the treatment of narcotic addiction. The purpose of the hearing is to provide an opportunity for interested parties to convey comments on the proposed rule to a panel composed of representatives from Federal agencies.

**DATES:** The hearing will be held on November 1, 1999, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Written notice of participation should be filed by October 26, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** The public hearing will be held in Conference Room D, 6001 Executive Blvd., Rockville, MD 20852. Written notices of participation and any comments are to be sent to CSAT

(Proposed Rule Public Hearing), Office of Pharmacological and Alternative Therapies, Rockwall II, 5515 Security Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. Notices can also be faxed to 301-480-3045.

Transcripts of the public hearing may be requested in writing from the Freedom of Information Office, SAMHSA, 5600 Fishers Lane, rm. 13C-05, Rockville, MD 20857, approximately 15 working days after the hearing, at a cost of 10 cents per page. The transcript of the public hearing, copies of data and information submitted during the hearing, and any written comments will be available for review at the Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20857 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Robert Lubran, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), SAMHSA, Rockwall II, 5515 Security Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, 301-443-0744, FAX 301-480-3045, e-mail [rlubran@samhsa.gov](mailto:rlubran@samhsa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

In a **Federal Register** notice published July 22, 1999, (64 FR 39809) the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) proposed to revise the conditions for the use of narcotic drugs in maintenance and detoxification treatment of opioid addiction. The proposal included the repeal of the existing narcotic treatment regulations enforced by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the creation of a new regulatory system based on an accreditation model under new 42 CFR Part 8, and a shift in administrative responsibility and oversight from FDA to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). It must be stressed, however that in the interim, until the proposal is finalized and effective, treatment programs will remain subject to FDA oversight and monitoring.

Several entities representing treatment providers, patients, State regulatory authorities, and others have approached SAMHSA and FDA to request an opportunity to present comments to Federal representatives in the forum of a public hearing. SAMHSA and FDA have determined that it would be valuable to convene a public hearing on the proposed rule.

**II. Public Hearing Topics**

The public hearing is intended to provide an opportunity for public comment on the proposed rule in its

entirety. Participants are encouraged to review and comment upon any portion of the proposal. The July 22, 1999, proposal, however, identified and solicited comments on a few specific issues. These issues are restated below for emphasis, but are not intended to preclude participants from providing public hearing comments on any issue relating to any aspect of the proposal:

**1. Accreditation Impact Study**

The July 22, 1999, notice described in detail a SAMHSA/CSAT study of 180 randomly selected, volunteer OTPs. The study is designed to provide useful information for refining the accreditation model. Importantly, no OTP participating in the study will be prohibited by the FDA or the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) from operating because of failure to meet the standards for accreditation. It was also noted that an external advisory group, established as part of SAMHSA's CSAT National Advisory Council will assist in the evaluation of the study data. Ultimately, the Council will provide recommendations to SAMHSA on the accreditation project. These recommendations will be reviewed and discussed among Federal agencies represented in the Interagency Narcotic Treatment Policy Review Board, which includes ONDCP. SAMHSA and FDA request specific comments on this review process.

**2. Accreditation, Conflicts of Interest**

Proposed § 8.3(b)(6) and § 8.4(g) address the policies and procedures established by the accreditation bodies to avoid conflicts of interest, or the appearance of conflicts of interest, by the applicant's board members, commissioners, professional personnel, consultants, administrative personnel, and other representatives. The proposal requested comments on the types of financial conflicts that should be prohibited, or on the amount of financial interest that may be considered *de minimus* such that it would not rise to a conflict of interest.

**3. States as Accreditation Bodies**

Proposed § 8.3(a) defines the term "accreditation body" to mean a body that has been approved by SAMHSA under proposed § 8.3 to accredit OTPs. Under the proposal, private nonprofit organizations as well as State governmental entities, including a political subdivision of a State (such as a county) may apply to serve as an accreditation body. However, proposed § 8.3 would limit eligibility to those applicants (including States and political subdivisions of a State) who

demonstrate that they will be able to accredit at least 50 OTPs per year. The proposed rule specifically requested comment on this requirement, which was proposed to ensure the quality of the accreditation services performed by accreditation bodies and to minimize the variability in the standards used by accrediting organizations.

**4. Procedures for Suspension/Revocation of Certification and Accreditation Body Approval**

Proposed §§ 8.21-8.34 addresses the process and procedures for revoking approval or certification, including the procedures for a hearing. The proposal noted that DEA also has a process for review when a registration is revoked or suspended consistent with the requirements of 21 U.S.C. § 824(c). The notice discussed possibilities for consolidating hearings under the lead of one agency. The Secretary, while proposing a separate hearing process, seeks comment on the proposed process.

**5. Federal Opioid Treatment Standards, Criteria for Admission to Treatment**

Under proposed § 8.12(e)(2) and (e)(4) the Secretary proposed a waiting period of no less than 7 days between detoxification treatment episodes. However, the Secretary tentatively concluded that 7 days is more time than is needed for this purpose, and may unnecessarily expose addicts to increased risks from HIV and other infectious diseases. The proposal requested comments on a shorter period, perhaps 2 days, as a waiting period between detoxification admissions.

**6. Office-Based Treatment**

The preamble to the proposed rule discussed the growing interest in providing treatment outside the traditional treatment program setting as a way to increase access to treatment in general. In addition, the notice specifically requested comments on how the Federal opioid treatment standards might be modified to accommodate office-based treatment and on whether a separate set of Federal opioid treatment standards should be included in this rule for office-based treatment.

**7. Medications Dispensed for Unsupervised Use ("Take-Homes")**

In the July 22, 1999, notice, the Secretary proposed four options for determining whether OTPs comply with standards respecting the quantities of opioid drugs which may be provided to patients for unsupervised use. The

Secretary specifically requested comment on these approaches, as well as the optimal combination of regulatory requirements, accreditation elements, and oversight procedures to reduce the risks of diversion.

### 8. Analysis of Impacts

The July 22, 1999, proposal included an extensive review and analysis of the estimated cost to affected opioid treatment programs for complying with the new regulations and the estimated cost to SAMHSA for enforcing the proposed regulations. The average annual net cost of this regulation was estimated to be \$4.4 million. The notice requested comments and information to further assess or estimate the costs for programs to meet the requirements of the current regulations. In addition, the proposal requested comments on how to address the impact of the estimated costs on small entities.

### III. Scope of Hearing

The purpose of this hearing is to provide an additional opportunity for Federal officials to gather information that will aid in evaluating the proposed rule issued on July 22, 1999. In addition, it will provide an opportunity for panelists representing Federal agencies with interests and responsibilities in this area to question commentors, to the extent necessary, to clarify issues. It is not the purpose of this hearing to have Federal officials evaluating and making recommendations at this hearing on specific elements in the July 22, 1999, proposed rule.

### IV. Notice of Hearing

SAMHSA and FDA believe the format and procedures of a public hearing, at which interested persons can testify, will provide an additional opportunity to elicit the information needed to evaluate further the July 22, 1999, proposed rule.

The public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. in Conference Room D, Neuroscience Conference Center, 6001 Executive Blvd., Rockville, MD, 20852, on November 1, 1999. The presiding officers, H. Westley Clark, M.D., J.D., M.P.H., Director, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and David Lepay, M.D., Director, Division of Scientific Investigations, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), will be accompanied by a panel of FDA, National Institutes of Health, DEA, Department of Veterans Affairs, and

Office of National Drug Control Policy employees with relevant expertise.

Persons who wish to participate are requested to notify CSAT of their intention by writing to CSAT at the address specified above on or before October 26, 1999. To ensure timely handling, the outer envelope should be clearly marked with Docket No. 98N-0671 and the phrase "Proposed Rule Public Hearing." The notice of participation should contain the interested person's name, address, telephone number, facsimile number, any business or organizational affiliation of the person desiring to make a presentation, a brief summary of the presentation, and the approximate time requested for the presentation. CSAT and FDA may ask that groups having similar interests consolidate their comments as part of a panel. CSAT and FDA will allocate the time available for the hearing among the persons who properly file notices of their intent to participate. If time permits, CSAT and FDA will allow interested persons attending the hearing who did not submit a notice of participation in advance to make an oral presentation at the conclusion of the hearing. Finally, CSAT and FDA request that those persons interested in attending the hearing, but not intending to testify, should also notify CSAT of their intent to do so.

Persons who find that there is insufficient time to submit the required information in writing may give oral notice of participation by calling Mr. Robert Lubran (telephone number above) no later than October 29, 1999.

After reviewing the notices of participation and accompanying information, CSAT and FDA will schedule each appearance and notify each participant by mail or telephone of the time allotted to the persons and the approximate time the person's oral presentation is scheduled to begin. The hearing schedule will be available at the hearing.

It should be noted that there are other opportunities for all interested persons to submit data, information, or views on the July 22, 1999, proposed rule. As noted in July 22, 1999, notice, the administrative record will remain open until November 19, 1999. Persons who wish to provide additional materials for consideration are to file these materials in accordance with the instructions provided in that notice.

The hearing is informal, and the rules of evidence do not apply. No participant may interrupt the presentation of another participant. Only the presiding officers and panel members may

question any person during or at the conclusion of a presentation.

Dated: October 12, 1999.

**Nelba Chavez,**

*Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.*

[FR Doc. 99-27299 Filed 10-18-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-17-P

## OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

### Office of Federal Procurement Policy

#### 48 CFR Part 9903

#### Cost Accounting Standards Board; Notice of Open Public Meeting and Extension of Public Comment Period

**AGENCY:** Cost Accounting Standards Board, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, OMB.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting and extension of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Cost Accounting Standards Board (CASB) hereby extends an invitation for interested parties to attend an open meeting with the Board and its staff on Monday, December 6, 1999. Currently, the Board anticipates holding the meeting from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the auditorium of the General Services Administration, 18th and F Streets, NW, Washington, DC 20405. During this meeting, the Board would like to hear the views of interested parties concerning the regulatory topics covered in the recent Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (SNPRM-II), regarding "Changes in Cost Accounting Practices," 64 FR 45700 (8/20/99).

In addition, the Board is extending the public comment period for the SNPRM-II, 64 FR 45700, until November 22, 1999.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on December 6, 1999, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Due to time considerations, individuals desiring to make a presentation before the Board, must notify the CASB staff, in writing, no later than November 22, 1999. Public comments on the SNPRM-II must be received, in writing, no later than November 22, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the auditorium of the General Services Administration, 18th and F Streets, NW, Washington, DC 20405. Requests to make a presentation at the meeting must be in writing, and must be addressed to Cost Accounting Standards Board, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, 725 17th Street, NW, room 9013,