

governments. Applications must be no more than 20 single-sided pages, double-spaced, excluding work plan grid (if selecting to use suggested format), Standard Form (SF) 424, assurances, certification forms, budget forms and justification (up to 4 pages), and indirect cost agreements.

Review of applications: Applications will be evaluated against the following criteria: Purpose and Need for Assistance (10 points); Approach/Method—Workplan and Activities (40 points); Outcomes/Benefits/Impacts (25 points); and Level of Effort, Program Management, and Organizational Capacity (25 points).

DATES: The deadline date for the submission of applications is June 1, 2004. Applications must be postmarked by midnight, or hand-delivered by 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time, or submitted electronically by midnight, June 1, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Application kits are available by writing to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging, Center for Wellness and Community Based Services, Washington, DC 20201; by calling (202) 357-3452; or online at <http://www.grants.gov>.

Applications may be mailed to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging, Office of Grants Management, Washington, DC 20201, attn: Margaret Tolson (AoA 04-02).

Applications may be delivered to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging, Office of Grants Management, One Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Room 4604, Washington, DC 20001, attn: Margaret Tolson (AoA 04-02). If you elect to mail or hand deliver your application you must submit one original and two copies of the application; an acknowledgment card will be mailed to applicants. Instructions for electronic mailing of

grant applications available at <http://www.grants.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging, Office of Grants Management, Washington, DC, 20201, telephone: (202) 357-3440.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: All grant applicants are required to obtain a D-U-N-S number from Dun and Bradstreet. It is a unique, nine-digit identification number, which provides unique identifiers of single business entities. The D-U-N-S number is free and easy to obtain from <https://eupdate.dnb.com/requestoptions.html?cmid=EOE100537>.

Dated: April 15, 2004.
Josefina G. Carbonell,
Assistant Secretary for Aging.
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[60Day-04-42]

Proposed Data Collections Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

In compliance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects. To request more information on the proposed projects or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, call the CDC Reports Clearance Officer on (404) 498-1210.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance

of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Send comments to Sandra Gambescia, CDC Assistant Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road, MS-E11, Atlanta, GA 30333. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Proposed Project

The National Death Index, (0920-0215)—Extension—National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Background

The National Death Index (NDI) is a national data base containing identifying death record information submitted annually to NCHS by all the state vital statistics offices, beginning with deaths in 1979. Searches against the NDI file provide the states and dates of death, and the death certificate numbers of deceased study subjects. Since the implementation of the NDI Plus service, researchers have the option of also receiving cause of death information for deceased subjects, thus reducing the need to request copies of death certificates from the states. The NDI Plus option currently provides the ICD codes for the underlying and multiple causes of death for the years 1979-2002. Health researchers must complete five administrative forms in order to apply for NDI services, and submit records of study subjects for computer matching against the NDI file. There is no cost to respondents except for their time.

Respondents	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondents	Average burden per response (in hrs.)	Total burden (in hrs.)
Government researchers	48	1	2	96
University researchers	60	1	2	120
Private industry researchers	12	1	2	24
Total	240

Dated: April 13, 2004.

Alvin Hall,

*Director, Management Analysis and Services
Office, Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention.*

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Monitoring Atypical HIV Strains Among Persons Newly Diagnosed With HIV Using Dried Blood Spots vs. Diagnostic Sera

Announcement Type: New.

Funding Opportunity Number: 04118.

Catalog of Federal Domestic

Assistance Number: 93.944.

Key Dates: Letter of Intent Deadline:
May 20, 2004. Application Deadline:
June 21, 2004.

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Authority: This program is authorized under the Public Health Service Act sections 301 and 318(b) (42 U.S.C. 241 and 247c), as amended.

Purpose: The purpose of the program is to expand the ability of health departments to perform surveillance of the prevalence of atypical strains of HIV, including drug resistant strains and non-B subtypes, by piloting the use of dried blood spots as an additional specimen type for this purpose. The use of serum from an HIV diagnostic blood draw for surveillance of atypical strains is the methodology used in several HIV resistance surveillance projects in various stages of implementation with different health departments. Some diagnostic sites and clinical centers cannot currently be included in these projects, due to logistical problems with specimen availability, processing or volume. The purpose of CDC funding for this activity is to allow state and local health departments, including both those already participating in atypical HIV strain surveillance and those not yet participating, to:

(1) Evaluate the feasibility and efficiency of routine use of dried blood spots (DBS) for surveillance of atypical strains of HIV, including drug resistant strains and non-B subtypes, in persons newly diagnosed with HIV.

(2) Monitor the prevalence of atypical HIV strains, including antiretroviral drug resistant strains and non-B subtypes, among persons newly diagnosed with HIV, including those for whom sera from a diagnostic blood draw are not available for surveillance

purposes, and those for whom diagnostic sera are used for surveillance of atypical strains.

Compare the prevalence among the two groups.

This project will fulfill the purpose of monitoring prevalence of atypical strains by extending surveillance to sites that would currently be unable to provide sera for genotyping. DBS may also be collected for atypical strain surveillance in other sites where the collection of DBS may be more acceptable or require fewer resources than the collection of diagnostic sera. A comparison of resource requirements for the two methods in a variety of site types will be an important part of the evaluation. This program addresses the "Healthy People 2010" focus area(s) of HIV.

Measurable outcomes of the program will be in alignment with one (or more) of the following performance goal(s) for the National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHSTP): Strengthen the capacity nationwide to monitor the epidemic, develop and implement effective HIV prevention interventions and evaluate prevention programs.

The expected outcome is an enhanced ability to collect data on atypical HIV strains in persons newly diagnosed with HIV. Data from surveillance of atypical strains of HIV are used to identify emerging epidemics, monitor trends in transmission, target prevention resources and interventions to areas and populations most heavily affected, and evaluate programs designed to prevent the transmission of HIV.

Research Objectives: (1) To monitor the prevalence of HIV drug resistant strains and non-B HIV-1 subtypes in persons newly diagnosed with HIV in public or private settings, including those in which sera are not available for HIV genotyping and those in which sera are used.

(2) To compare the results of HIV genotyping for atypical strain surveillance purposes from both a serum or plasma specimen and a dried blood spot collected not more than three months after diagnosis for at least 20 newly diagnosed persons per area.

(3) To compare the prevalence of atypical strains of HIV among persons diagnosed at sites where HIV diagnostic specimens are used for HIV drug resistance and subtype surveillance, and sites where HIV diagnostic specimens cannot be used, such as:

a. Sites where blood draws are not used for HIV diagnosis.

b. Sites where blood draw volumes are consistently too low for 1 ml of serum to be set aside for HIV genotyping

for the purpose of atypical strain surveillance.

c. Sites where the use of sera from the diagnostic blood draw for HIV genotyping is not practical because the time between blood draw and processing is consistently greater than 96 hours, rendering the amplification of virus for HIV drug resistance genotyping problematic.

d. Sites where the use of DBS for atypical HIV strain surveillance is more acceptable than the use of sera to staff or participants, or where fewer resources may be required to collect DBS than sera.

(4) To evaluate the resources needed and the logistics involved in collecting and transporting specimens and amplifying HIV for genotyping from DBS, compared with using HIV diagnostic sera, for routine atypical HIV strain surveillance.

Activities: Awardee activities for this program are as follows:

1. Identify HIV diagnostic sites, Counseling, Testing and Referral Centers, and/or clinical sites where HIV drug resistance surveillance in newly diagnosed persons cannot take place using the serum/plasma based methodology funded under PA 01194, PA 04017, and PA 00005 because of one of the following conditions:

a. Blood draws are not used for HIV diagnosis.

b. Blood draw volumes are consistently too low for 1 ml of serum to be set aside for HIV drug resistance genotyping.

c. The use of sera from the diagnostic blood draw for HIV genotyping is not practical because the time between blood draw and processing is consistently greater than 96 hours, rendering the amplification of virus for HIV drug resistance genotyping problematic.

d. DBS are more acceptable to staff or participants, or their collection, processing, and transport may require fewer resources than sera.

2. Identify the subset of those sites from which DBS could be obtained for equal to or greater than 90 percent of persons newly diagnosed with HIV in each site, either at the time of HIV diagnosis or no more than three months after diagnosis.

3. Identify comparison sites from which HIV diagnostic sera are being used, or can be used, for routine surveillance of atypical strains of HIV, in which logistics, resources, and staff time needed to collect and process specimens can be compared to those in sites where DBS will be collected. These sites may include, but are not limited to, sites already participating in atypical