

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 Seleda Perryman, 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

Environmental Monitoring of Persistent Organic Pollutants and Metals: A Multi-Center Study to Determine Population Exposure to Environmental Toxins in North America—New—National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Persistent organic pollutants (POPs) are a group of man-made chemicals that can stay in the environment for long periods of time and can be transported long distances in the environment. Heavy metals such as lead and mercury are naturally found substances that can also be released into the environment as a result of human activities (*e.g.*, smelting). Exposure to these contaminants, even at low levels, may lead to adverse health effects,

particularly in high-risk groups such as the unborn child. However, before we attempt to determine if these contaminants are associated with health effects, we have to find out if these contaminants are present in our blood and in what amounts. The Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP), established in 1991 under the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy (AEPS), has the responsibility to monitor levels and assess effects of selected pollutants (*i.e.*, POPs and heavy metals) in all Arctic locations. To our knowledge, a similar integrated program for monitoring exposure to POPs and metals does not exist in North America.

The proposed program will monitor levels of POPs and heavy metals in first-time pregnant women. The program will help determine geographical and temporal trends of these exposures in selected cities within the United States, Canada, and Mexico. CDC will be responsible for the investigation in the United States; Canada and Mexico will be responsible for the investigation in their countries. The findings will inform first-time pregnant women in the vicinity of the study sites of their exposure to selected POPs and heavy metals. This program will also provide unique information regarding accumulation of POPs and heavy metals in relation to dietary patterns, and will allow assessment of trends in diet, which is critical public health information. Biomonitoring for POPs

and metals will enhance awareness among this vulnerable population of the risks posed by these chemicals in various regions of North America and help identify ways to reduce exposure. The program will enroll 25 pregnant women (20–25 years of age) per site (United States: 5 sites; Canada: 5 sites; Mexico: 10 sites). Data from previous projects in the United States and Canada will be used for comparing results of the current project. As there has been little national or regional monitoring in Mexico, more sites will be selected in Mexico than in the United States and Canada.

In collaboration with obstetricians at the local sites, study participants will be recruited during their prenatal clinic visit, after their 36th week of pregnancy but prior to delivery. One person from the study team will approach the mother during a routine prenatal visit, explain the project, and obtain signed consent if the mother is willing to participate. The study will involve administering an exposure questionnaire and collection of blood and urine samples during the 3rd trimester of the pregnancy. This is only a one-time study; blood collection and administration of the questionnaire will only be done once. All samples will be analyzed at a single laboratory in each country, and the results will be distributed to the study participants and their physicians prior to publication. There are no costs to respondents.

Respondents	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hrs.)	Total burden (in hrs.)
U.S. Primiparous Pregnant Women	125	1	30/60	63
Total	63

Dated: April 13, 2004.

Alvin Hall,

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

[FR Doc. 04–9212 Filed 4–22–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163–18–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[60Day–04–46]

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

*Work-Related Stress Among Coal Miners—New—*The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Work-related stress appears to increase the risk of atherosclerotic heart disease, musculoskeletal disorders such as back pain and carpal tunnel syndrome, and clinical depression. The mechanism by which stress increases the risk of chronic disease states is unknown, but is thought to involve abnormal communication between the brain and the endocrine system. Dysfunction of this communication system, called the Hypothalamic-Pituitary-Adrenal (HPA) axis, is found in a number of chronic diseases, including coronary heart disease, diabetes, and rheumatoid arthritis. In a

healthy individual, there is flexible communication between the hypothalamus and pituitary, both located in the brain, and the adrenal gland, located above the kidneys. When stresses occur throughout the day, cortisol is released from the adrenal gland in response to signals from the brain. Cortisol prepares the body to respond to stress, after which cortisol levels return to normal. Chronic stress, with protracted or repeated challenge to the HPA axis, may lead to inappropriate levels of cortisol, further decline of HPA axis function, and increased risk of chronic disease.

This study will investigate the relationship between workplace stress and function of the HPA axis among a sample population of coal miners. Coal miners experience a number of work-related stresses, such as long hours of work, heavy workloads, shift work, and concerns about stability of employment. Miners will be asked to complete a 25-minute survey which asks about traditional job stressors including shift schedule and rotation, workload, and

degree of control over work. The survey also addresses stressors not typically examined in work stress surveys, including time spent in second jobs, commuting time to work, and responsibilities for care of children and the elderly.

Function of the HPA axis will be assessed by obtaining a series of cortisol samples from subjects right after they wake up in the morning. Recent studies have shown that the response of cortisol to awakening, measured in saliva, serves as a good marker of HPA axis function. Miners will be asked to obtain saliva samples at home, and send them to the NIOSH Morgantown laboratory for analysis.

Analyses will examine the relationship between the cortisol response to awakening, an indicator of HPA axis function, and measures of workplace stress. Data collected in this study will help NIOSH determine if workplace stress results in HPA axis dysfunction, which has been linked to a number of chronic disease conditions. There is no cost to respondents.

Respondents	No. of respondents	No. of responses per respondent	Average burden per respondent (in hours)	Total burden (in hours)
Coal Miners	400	1	25/60	167
Total	167

Dated: April 13, 2004.

Alvin Hall,

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

[FR Doc. 04-9213 Filed 4-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163-18-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[30Day-25-04]

Proposed Data Collections Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publishes a list of information collection requests under review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). To request a copy of these requests, call the CDC Reports Clearance Officer at (404) 498-1210. Send written comments to CDC, Desk Officer, Human

Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 or by fax to (202) 395-6974. Written comments should be received within 30 days of this notice.

Proposed Project: Online Evaluation Of A GIS Map Server Project With The Migrant Clinicians Network—New—Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR).

In 2001, ATSDR began working with the Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN) on a national project to use an internet-based mapping service to help decrease disparities by improving health care services for migrant workers through a resource, information, consultation and reporting Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping application for the health care providers within the MCN. The GIS Web site will be available at <http://gis.cdc.gov/mcnarcims>.

As part of the implementation of the Web site, MCN and ATSDR are proposing to include an online evaluation survey to ensure that the mapping service is meeting the needs of the health care clinicians providing services to migrant populations. The

survey will provide both MCN and ATSDR valuable immediate opportunities to configure the Web site to the practical needs of the physicians and other health care providers using the GIS Web site for clinical care to prevent, intervene, and treat environmental exposures for migrant farm workers and their families.

The evaluation survey will be included on the main access page of the Web site, <http://gis.cdc.gov/mcnarcims>. The feedback survey will be completely voluntary and will assess the following: (1) Ease of navigating the Web site; (2) ease of locating information within the site; (3) content of the Web site; (4) technology issues (e.g., loading, links, printing); and, (5) utility of the Web site to health care practice and environmental health prevention, practice and intervention. An additional question will ascertain the respondent's job category to determine the type of person accessing the Web site which will help ATSDR and MCN update and modify the content of the Web site to better fit the actual site user.

It is anticipated that the feedback survey will provide critical information