

Explanation of change:

OPM proposes to change the instructions to question 21.1 of the standard form 86, which asks whether, in the last seven years, the respondent has consulted with a health care professional regarding an emotional or mental health condition or was hospitalized for such a condition. The proposed change would instruct persons whose consultation was strictly in relation to a sexual assault to respond “no.”

OPM proposes this change at the request of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and the Department of Defense. Revision through the Change Sheet process is appropriate because the revision will significantly reduce paperwork burden for a class of respondents. Specifically those respondents who currently answer “yes” due to their health care consultations related to a sexual assault must complete a series of eight “branching questions” for each health care provider consulted, each of which contains multiple text fields. OPM’s revision to require a response of “no” will eliminate the need for these respondents to answer any of these branching questions.