

September 11th Victim Compensation Fund (VCF) from receiving payments from the United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund, even if their claims were determined eligible by the Special Master.<sup>8</sup> Because 9/11 family members (*i.e.*, immediate family members of 9/11 victims who are not spouses or dependents, such as non-dependent parents and siblings) generally did not receive awards from the VCF, they were not precluded from receiving payments from the Fund if their claims were determined eligible. In 2019, the United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund Clarification Act (Clarification Act) removed the language precluding 9/11-related claimants (*i.e.*, 9/11 victims, spouses, and dependents) who received awards from the VCF from receiving payments from the Fund.<sup>9</sup>

Section 1705 of the Sudan Claims Resolution Act contains a provision for GAO to conduct an audit and publish a notice estimating potential lump sum catch-up payments to 9/11 victims, 9/11 spouses, and 9/11 dependents who have eligible claims from the Fund. Specifically, we are publishing for comment our methodology for estimating potential lump-sum catch up payments in “amounts that, after receiving the lump sum catch-up payments, would result in the percentage of the claims of 9/11 victims, 9/11 spouses, and 9/11 dependents received from the Fund being equal to the percentage of the claims of 9/11 family members received from the Fund, as of the date of enactment.”<sup>10</sup> For the purpose of this analysis, “9/11 family members” are eligible claimants who received payments from the Fund in the first and second rounds of payments in 2017 and 2019, respectively; and “9/11 victims, 9/11 spouses, and 9/11 dependents” are claimants who had eligible claims (based on eligible final judgments) prior to the Clarification Act, but were precluded from receiving payments from the Fund because they had received awards from the VCF.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>8</sup> See Public Law 114–113, div. O, tit. IV, 404, 129 Stat. 2242, 3010–3011.

<sup>9</sup> Public Law 116–69, div. B, tit. VII, 1701, 133 Stat. 1134, 1140–1141.

<sup>10</sup> 34 U.S.C. 20144(d)(4)(C)(i). Further, section 1705 provides for GAO to conduct this audit in accordance with 34 U.S.C. 20144(d)(3)(A), which generally places limits on the amount of eligible claims (referred to as “statutory caps”). For example, for individuals, the cap is generally \$20,000,000 and for claims of family members when aggregated, the cap is generally \$35,000,000. As such, we plan to utilize data from the Fund on the claim amounts after the application of statutory caps.

<sup>11</sup> In the context of the overall statutory scheme of the Fund, the population for which we are

To estimate the amount(s) called for in the mandate, GAO plans to utilize data from the Fund on the following amounts: (1) Payments received by 9/11 family members in rounds one and two; (2) net eligible claims<sup>12</sup> of 9/11 family members who received payments in rounds one and two; and (3) net eligible claims<sup>13</sup> of 9/11 victims, spouses, and dependents. Using these amounts, we plan to calculate the percentage of 9/11 family members’ net eligible claims that were paid from the Fund in rounds one and two. We will then apply this percentage to net eligible claims of 9/11 victims, spouses, and dependents to generate the lump sum catch-up payment amount for 9/11 victims, spouses, and dependents, in an equal percentage.

After consideration of comments from this notice, we will issue a second **Federal Register** notice, utilizing data from the Fund to report estimated lump sum catch-up payments based on this methodology with any changes we determine appropriate. We will again seek public comment on the second **Federal Register** notice.

**Authority:** Pub. L. 116–260, div. FF, tit. XVII, 1705, 134 Stat. 1182, 3293–3294 (34 U.S.C. 20144(d)(4)(C)).

**Charles Michael Johnson, Jr.**,

*Managing Director, Homeland Security and Justice, U.S. Government Accountability Office.*

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estimating “catch-up payments” are 9/11 victims, spouses, and dependents who applied for payments in the first, second, or third round of payments from the Fund; whose final judgment date was prior to the close of the application period for the second round of payments (September 14, 2018); and who did not receive payments from the Fund in rounds one or two. See 34 U.S.C. 20144(c), (d)(4)(C); U.S. Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund, “Special Master Report Regarding the Third Distribution,” at 2 (June 2020). According to the Fund’s June 2020 congressional report, the applications of eligible claimants who applied in rounds one or two are carried forward into subsequent payment rounds.

<sup>12</sup> For the purposes of our analysis, “net eligible claims” refers to the monetary amount of all eligible claims after the application of statutory caps by the Fund, if applicable. 34 U.S.C. 20144(d)(3)(A). In accordance with GAO standards, we will assess the reliability and completeness of the data from the Fund to ensure that it is appropriate for these purposes.

<sup>13</sup> As discussed in footnote 11 above, a 9/11 victim, dependent, or spouse’s net eligible claim would be included if they applied for payments in the first, second, or third round of payments from the Fund; if the date of their final judgment was prior to the close of the application period for the second round of payments (September 14, 2018); and if they did not receive a payment from the Fund in rounds one or two.

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

[60Day–21–0047; Docket No. ATSDR–2021–0003]

### Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

**AGENCY:** Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice with comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), as part of its continuing effort to reduce public burden and maximize the utility of government information, invites the general public and other Federal agencies the opportunity to comment on a proposed and/or continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This notice invites comment on a proposed information collection project titled “Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery.” The information collection activity provides a means to garner qualitative customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient, timely manner, in accordance with the Federal government’s commitment to improving service delivery.

**DATES:** ATSDR must receive written comments on or before May 25, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. ATSDR–2021–0003 by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov). Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Jeffrey M. Zirger, Information Collection Review Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS–D74, Atlanta, Georgia 30329.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and Docket Number. ATSDR will post, without change, all relevant comments to [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov).

*Please note: Submit all comments through the Federal eRulemaking portal ([regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov)) or by U.S. mail to the address listed above.*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the information collection plan and instruments, contact Jeffrey M. Zirger, Information Collection Review Office,

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS-D74, Atlanta, Georgia 30329; phone: 404-639-7118; Email: [omb@cdc.gov](mailto:omb@cdc.gov).

**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. In addition, the PRA also requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each new proposed collection, each proposed extension of existing collection of information, and each reinstatement of previously approved information collection before submitting the collection to the OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, we are publishing this notice of a proposed data collection as described below.

The OMB is particularly interested in comments that will help:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.
5. Assess information collection costs.

#### Proposed Project

Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery (OMB Control No. 0923-0047, Exp. 01/31/2022)—Extension—Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR).

#### Background and Brief Description

The information collection activity provides a means to garner qualitative

customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient, timely manner, in accordance with the Federal government's commitment to improving service delivery. By qualitative feedback we mean information that provides useful insights on perceptions and opinions, but are not statistical surveys that yield quantitative results that can be generalized to the population of study.

This feedback will provide insights into customer or stakeholder perceptions, experiences and expectations, provide an early warning of issues with service, or focus attention on areas where communication, training or changes in operations might improve delivery of products or services. These collections will allow for ongoing, collaborative and actionable communications between the Agency and its customers and stakeholders. It will also allow feedback to contribute directly to the improvement of program management.

The solicitation of feedback will target areas such as: timeliness, appropriateness, accuracy of information, courtesy, efficiency of service delivery, and resolution of issues with service delivery. Responses will be assessed to plan and inform efforts to improve or maintain the quality of service offered to the public. If this information is not collected, vital feedback from customers and stakeholders on the Agency's services will be unavailable.

ATSDR will only submit a collection for approval under this generic clearance if it meets the following conditions:

- The collections are voluntary;
- The collections are low-burden for respondents (based on considerations of total burden hours, total number of respondents, or burden-hours per respondent) and are low-cost for both the respondents and the Federal Government;
- The collections are noncontroversial and do not raise issues of concern to other Federal agencies;
- Any collection is targeted to the solicitation of opinions from respondents who have experience with the program or may have experience with the program in the near future;
- Personally identifiable information (PII) is collected only to the extent necessary and is not retained;

- Information gathered is intended to be used only internally for general service improvement and program management purposes and is not intended for release outside of the agency (if released, the agency must indicate the qualitative nature of the information);

- Information gathered will not be used for the purpose of substantially informing influential policy decisions; and

- Information gathered will yield qualitative information; the collections will not be designed or expected to yield statistically reliable results or used as though the results are generalizable to the population of study.

Feedback collected under this generic clearance provides useful information, but it does not yield data that can be generalized to the overall population. This type of generic clearance for qualitative information will not be used for quantitative information collections that are designed to yield reliably actionable results, such as monitoring trends over time or documenting program performance. Such data uses require more rigorous designs that address: The target population to which generalizations will be made, the sampling frame, the sample design (including stratification and clustering), the precision requirements or power calculations that justify the proposed sample size, the expected response rate, methods for assessing potential nonresponse bias, the protocols for data collection, and any testing procedures that were or will be undertaken prior to fielding the study. Depending on the degree of influence the results are likely to have, such collections may still be eligible for submission for other generic mechanisms that are designed to yield quantitative results.

As a general matter, information collections will not result in any new system of records containing privacy information and will not ask questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.

This is an extension of the previously approved collection of 7,075 annualized burden hours. The respondents are Individuals and Households; Businesses and Organizations; and State, Local, or Tribal Government. There is no cost to respondents other than their time.

ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Type of respondent	Type of collection	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Hours per response	Total burden (in hours)
Individuals and Households; Businesses and Organizations; and State, Local, or Tribal Government.	Small discussion groups .....	300	1	90/60	450
	Request for customer comment cards/complaint forms/post-conference or training surveys.	1,500	1	15/60	375
	Focus groups of customers, potential customers, delivery partners, or other stakeholders.	2,000	1	2	4,000
	Qualitative customer satisfaction surveys or interviews.	3,000	1	30/60	1,500
	Usability testing/in-person observation testing.	1,500	1	30/60	750
<b>Total .....</b>	.....	.....	.....	.....	<b>7,075</b>

**Jeffrey M. Zirger,**  
*Lead, Information Collection Review Office, Office of Scientific Integrity, Office of Science, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*  
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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

[30Day-21-21AT]

**Agency Forms Undergoing Paperwork Reduction Act Review**

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has submitted the information collection request titled Evaluation of Venous Thromboembolism Prevention Practices in U.S. Hospitals to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. CDC previously published a “Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations” notice on November 19, 2020 to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. CDC did not receive comments related to the previous notice. This notice serves to allow an additional 30 days for public and affected agency comments.

CDC will accept all comments for this proposed information collection project. The Office of Management and Budget is particularly interested in comments that:

(a) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(c) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(d) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including, through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses; and

(e) Assess information collection costs.

To request additional information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the information collection plan and instruments, call (404) 639-7570. Comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain) Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Direct written comments and/or suggestions regarding the items contained in this notice to the Attention: CDC Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503 or by fax to (202) 395-5806. Provide written comments within 30 days of notice publication.

**Proposed Project**

Evaluation of Venous Thromboembolism Prevention Practices in U.S. Hospitals—New—National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD),

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

*Background and Brief Description*

The National Center on Birth Defects and Disabilities (NCBDDD) is submitting a New Information Collection Request for one-year approval. Venous thromboembolism (VTE) is an important and growing public health problem. Over half of VTE events are associated with recent hospitalization and most occur after discharge. Hospital-associated VTE is often preventable but VTE prevention strategies are not applied uniformly or systematically across U.S. hospitals. The framework for VTE prevention in hospitalized patients includes a hospital VTE prevention policy, an interdisciplinary VTE team, a VTE prevention protocol, monitoring of processes and outcomes, and VTE prevention education for providers and patients. A VTE prevention protocol includes VTE risk assessment, bleeding risk assessment, and clinical decision support for appropriate VTE prophylaxis. Increase in VTE risk assessment rates have been associated with improvements in VTE prophylaxis.

An implementation gap exists between evidence-based guidelines for VTE prophylaxis in hospitalized adult patients and implementation of those guidelines in real-world hospital settings. However, data on VTE prevention practices in U.S. hospitals is lacking. To address this gap, CDC, in collaboration with The Joint Commission, developed a survey on hospital VTE prevention practices. The survey will be implemented by The Joint Commission as an electronic one-time data collection in a nationally representative sample of U.S. adult general medical and surgical hospitals. The target respondent will be the