Supporting Statement - Part A

Reform of Requirements for Long-Term Care Facilities (OMB Control Number 0938-1363)

CMS-10573

A. Background

The purpose of this package is to request Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval of the collection of information requirements for the requirements of participation for Long-Term Care (LTC) facilities that must be met in order to participate in the Medicare and Medicaid Programs.

According to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) data, as of April 2, 2021, there were 15,372 LTC facilities in the United States. These facilities are currently caring for 1,290,290 residents. Since the number of LTC facilities and residents varies yearly, for the purposes of this analysis, we utilized estimates of 15,600 for LTC facilities and 1.3 million residents. LTC facilities include skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) as defined in section 1819(a) of the Social Security Act in the Medicare program and nursing facilities (NFs) as defined in 1919(a) of the Act in the Medicaid program. SNFs and NFs provide skilled nursing care and related services for residents who require medical or nursing care, or rehabilitation services for the rehabilitation of injured, disabled, or sick persons. In addition, NFs provide health-related care and services to individuals who because of their mental or physical condition require care and services (above the level of room and board) which can be made available to them only through institutional facilities, and is not primarily for the care and treatment of mental diseases. SNFs and NFs must care for their residents in such a manner and in such an environment as will promote maintenance or enhancement of the quality of life of each resident and must provide to residents services to attain or maintain the highest practicable physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being of each resident, in accordance with a written plan of care which describes the medical, nursing, and psychosocial needs of the resident and how such needs will be met and which is updated periodically.

Under the authority of sections 1819 and 1919 of the Act, the Secretary proposed to reform the requirements that SNFs and NFs must meet to participate in the Medicare & Medicaid programs. These requirements would be set forth in 42 CFR 483 subpart B as Requirements for LTC Care Facilities. The requirements apply to an LTC facility as an entity as well as the services furnished to each individual under the care of the LTC facility, unless a requirement is specifically limited to Medicare or to Medicaid beneficiaries. To implement these requirements, State survey agencies generally conduct surveys of LTC facilities to determine whether or not they are complying with the requirements.

Ordinarily, we would be required to estimate the public reporting burden for information collection requirements (ICRs) for these regulations in accordance with chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code. However, sections 4204(b) and 4214(d) of Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987, P.L. 100-203 (OBRA '87) provide for a waiver of Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA)

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requirements for some regulations. At the time that the 2016 LTC final rule (81 FR 68688) published, we believed that this waiver still applied to those updates we made to existing requirements in part 483 subpart B that were set forth by OBRA 87. However, we acknowledged that the 2016 final rule also extensively revised many of the existing requirements in part 483 subpart B and recognized that the revisions likely created new burdens for facilities. In addition, we noted that the 2016 final rule implemented several new requirements set forth by the Affordable Care Act, which did not provide a PRA waiver. Therefore, we provided burden estimates for the new ICRs finalized in the 2016 LTC final rule set forth by the Affordable Care Act, as well as those revisions to existing requirements in part 483 subpart B that were so extensive they could be considered new ICRs in concept. For the current or 2022 PRA package, we have provided updates to the ICR burdens in the 2019 PRA package, as well as provided burden estimates for all of the new ICRs finalized since 2016 that were in effect as of May 2021. See Table 2 for the rules covered in this PRA package and the ICRs attributable to each rule.

B. Justification

1. Need and Legal Basis

The ICRs for which we are requesting OMB approval are listed below. These requirements are among other requirements which are based on criteria prescribed in law and are standards designed to ensure that each LTC facility safely and effectively delivers care to all residents. The ICRs described herein are needed to implement these health and safety standards requirements for all Medicare and Medicaid participating LTC facilities. We believe some of the requirements applied to these LTC facilities will impose little burden since a prudent institution will self-impose them in the course of doing business.

Sections 1818 and 1919 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i–3 and 42 U.S.C. 1396r, respectively) specify certain requirements that a LTC facility must meet to participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. In particular, sections 1819(d)(4)(B) and 1919(d)(4)(B) require that a SNF or NF must meet such other requirements relating to the health, safety, and well-being of residents or relating to the physical facilities thereof as the Secretary many find necessary. In addition, sections 1128I(b) and (c) and section 1150B of the Act require that each LTC facility establish a compliance and ethics program, and a quality assurance and performance improvement (QAPI) program, and implement requirements to ensure reporting of suspicions of a crime.

Under the authority of sections 1819, 1919, 1128I (b) and (c), and 1150B of the Act, the Secretary proposes to establish in regulation the requirements that an LTC facility must meet to participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

2. Information Users

The primary users of this information will be State agency surveyors, CMS, and the LTC facilities for the purposes of ensuring compliance with Medicare and Medicaid requirements as well as ensuring the quality of care provided to LTC facility residents. The ICRs specified in the

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regulations may be used as a basis for determining whether a LTC is meeting the requirements to participate in the Medicare program. In addition, the information collected for purposes of ensuring compliance may be used to inform the data provided on CMS' Nursing Home Compare website and as such used by the public in considering nursing home selections for services.

3. Use of Information Technology

LTC facilities may use health information technologies (HIT) to store and manage records, consistent with statutory and regulatory requirements for record keeping and confidentiality. Use of certified HIT technology is encouraged but not required, as some facilities, particularly small or rural facilities, may not have electronic capacity at this time. Facilities are free to take advantage of any technology advances they find appropriate for their needs.

4. Duplication of Efforts

This information collection does not duplicate any other effort and the information cannot be obtained from any other source.

Small Businesses

This information collection does affect small businesses. However, the requirements are sufficiently flexible for facilities to meet them in a way consistent with their existing operations.

6. Less Frequent Collection

CMS does not collect this information directly from LTC facilities on a scheduled basis. Facilities are expected to collect and maintain their own records in a timely fashion and to be able to provide necessary records to State or Federal surveyors when needed to demonstrate compliance with the LTC requirements for participation. With less frequent collection, CMS would not be able to assess or ensure compliance with the requirements.

7. Special Circumstances

There are no special circumstances for collecting this information.

8. Federal Register/Outside Consultation

The 60-day Federal Register notice of the Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Reform of Requirements for Long-Term Care Facilities proposed rule (CMS-3260-P) published on July 16, 2015 (80 FR 42168). The 30-day Federal Register notice of the final rule (CMS-3260-F) published on October 4, 2016 (81 FR 68688). The Federal Register notice of the Medicare and Medicaid Programs, Basic Health Program, and Exchanges; Additional Policy and Regulatory Revisions in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and Delay of Certain Reporting Requirements for the Skilled Nursing Facility Quality Reporting Program Interim Final Rule with Comment (IFC) published on May 8, 2020 (85 FR 27550). The IFC, Medicare

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and Medicaid Programs, Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA), and Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; Additional Policy and Regulatory Revisions in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, published on September 2, 2020 (85 FR 54820). The 7-day Federal Register notice of Medicare and Medicaid Programs; COVID-19 Vaccine Requirements for Long Term Care (LTC) Facilities and Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICFs-IID) Residents, Clients, and Staff) IFC published on May 13, 2021 (86 FR 26306).

The 60-day Federal Register notice published March 15, 2022 (87 FR 14536). There were no public comments received.

The 30-day Federal Register notice published June 9, 2022 (87 FR 35216).

9. Payments/Gifts to Respondents

There are no payment or gifts to respondents.

10. Confidentiality

We do not pledge confidentiality of aggregate data. We pledge confidentiality of resident-specific data in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a).

11. Sensitive Questions

There are no questions of a sensitive nature associated with this information collection.

12. Burden Estimates (Hours & Wages)

In analyzing information collection costs, we rely heavily on wage and salary information. Unless otherwise indicated, we obtained all salary information from the May 2020 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, United States by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) at https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm. Furthermore, where applicable, the wage information for each occupation was pulled from the BLS industry category "nursing care facilities (skilled nursing facilities)." Based on this information, we have calculated the estimated adjusted hourly rates for the LTC requirements based upon the national mean salary for that particular position increased by 100 percent to account for overhead costs and fringe benefits. The raw wage and salary data from the BLS does not include health, retirement, and other fringe benefits, or the rent, utilities, information technology, administrative, and other types of overhead costs supporting each employee. HHS department-wide guidance on preparation of regulatory and paperwork burden estimates states that doubling salary costs is a good approximation to these overhead and fringe benefit costs.

Table 1 below presents the BLS occupation code and title, the associated LTC facility staff position in this regulation, the estimated average hourly wage, and the adjusted hourly wage (with a 100 percent markup of the salary to include fringe benefits). In addition, throughout this

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analysis, any amount that results in a number ending with .50 or more will be rounded up to the next nearest dollar amount and those that end with .49 or less or rounded down to the next nearest dollar.

Table 1 - Summary Information of Estimated Mean Hourly and Adjusted Hourly Wages

Occupation Code	BLS Occupation Title	Associated Position Title in this Regulation	Mean Hourly Wage (\$/hour)	Adjusted Hourly Wage (with 100% markup for fringe benefits & overhead) (\$/hour) (rounded to nearest dollar)
29-1228	Physicians, All Others; and Ophthalmologists, (except Pediatric) (General Medical and Surgical Hospitals)	Medical Director, Attending Physician	\$85.70	\$171
29-1141	Registered Nurses (Nursing Facilities/Skilled Nursing Facilities)	Registered Nurse (RN), Infection Preventionist (IP)	\$34.66	\$69
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers (Nursing Facilities/Skilled Nursing Facilities)	Director of Nursing (DON), Administrator, Compliance Officer	\$48.15	\$96
21-1022	Healthcare Social Workers (Nursing Facilities/Skilled Nursing Facilities)	Social Worker	\$27.23	\$54
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	Office Assistant	\$18.16	\$36
31-1131	Nursing Assistant (Nursing Facilities/Skilled Nursing Facilities)	Nurse Aide	\$14.90	\$30
29-1031	Dietitians and Nutritionists (Nursing	Dietitian	\$29.06	\$58

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Occupation	BLS	Associated	Mean Hourly	Adjusted
Code	Occupation	Position Title in	Wage (\$/hour)	Hourly Wage
	Title	this Regulation		(with 100%
		_		markup for
				fringe benefits
				& overhead)
				(\$/hour)
				(rounded to
				nearest dollar)
	Facilities/Skilled			
	Nursing Facilities)			

This 2022 PRA package covers all rulemaking that created ICRs for LTC facilities up to and including those in effect as of May 2021. Table 2 below indicates the specific ICRs and final rule or interim final rule with comment (IFC) that created the ICRs with the rule's Federal Register (FR) citation. Table 3 below indicates the burden hours and costs of the ICRs created in the rules indicated in Table 2.

Table 2 - ICRs and Estimated Costs Associated with Each Rule

Rule Name	FR Citation	ICR
Medicare and Medicaid	81 FR 68688	All ICRs, except as noted below.
Programs; Reform of		
Requirements for Long-Term		
Care Facilities; Final rule (CMS-		
3260-F) (2016 Final Rule)		
Published October 4, 2016		
Medicare and Medicaid	85 FR 54820	Section 483.80(h) - COVID-19
Programs, Clinical Laboratory		Testing
Improvement Amendments		
(CLIA), and Patient Protection		
and Affordable Care Act;		
Additional Policy and Regulatory		
Revisions in Response to the		
COVID-19 Public Health		
Emergency; IFC (CMS-3401-IFC)		
(September 2020 Testing IFC)		
Published September 2, 2020		
Medicare and Medicaid	86 FR 26306	Sections 483.80(d)(3) - COVID-
Programs; COVID-19 Vaccine		19 immunizations
Requirements for Long Term		
Care (LTC) Facilities and		
Intermediate Care Facilities for		
Individuals with Intellectual		
Disabilities (ICFs-IID) Residents,		

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Rule Name	FR Citation	ICR
Clients, and Staff; IFC (CMS-		
3414-IFC) (May 2021		
Vaccination IFC) Published May		
13, 2021		
Medicare and Medicaid	86 FR 62240	Section 483.80(g)
Programs: CY 2022 Home		
Health Prospective Payment		
System Rate Update; Home		
Health Value-Based Purchasing		
Model Requirements and		
Model Expansion; Home Health		
and Other Quality Reporting		
Program Requirements; Home		
Infusion Therapy Services		
Requirements; Survey and		
Enforcement Requirements for		
Hospice Programs; Medicare		
Provider Enrollment		
Requirements; and COVID-19		
Reporting Requirements for		
Long-Term Care Facilities (86 FR		
62240) (CMS -1747—F and		
CMS-5531-F). Published		
November 9, 2021		

A. §483.10 Resident Rights

§483.10(c)(2) Notification of Changes to Care Plan

Existing regulations require that a resident, to the extent practicable, participate in the development of his or her care plan and be informed of the need to significantly alter treatment. We believe that the involvement and notification will include an opportunity to see the care plan. Periodic review after development of the care plan is also already required. Section 483.10(c)(2) provides that the resident has the right to sign the care plan. This demonstrates his or her participation in and review of his or her care planning and that participation is evident to caregivers, surveyors, and other interested parties.

We estimate that it will take a registered nurse (RN), with an adjusted hourly wage of \$69, no more than an additional 2 minutes per resident, to obtain a resident signature. We estimate that this may occur up to four times per year per resident. Based on an estimated 1.3 million residents per year, the resulting burden hours are 173,333 (1,300,000 X .1333 (($2 \div 60$ or 0.03333) x 4)). The cost is \$11,959,977 (173,333 x \$69).

§483.10(f)(4)(v) through 483.10(f)(4)(vi) Visitation Policy

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Section 483.10(f)(4)(v) requires facilities to have written policies and procedures regarding the visitation rights of residents. The policies and procedures must address any clinically necessary, safety related, or reasonable restrictions or limitations that may be placed on the visitation rights of residents. In addition, $\S483.10(f)(4)(vi)$ requires that facilities must inform residents of their visitation rights.

The burden associated with this activity is the one-time burden associated with initially developing such policies and procedures, as well as develop any materials that would be used to inform the residents of their visitation rights. There is also the ongoing burden associated with updating such policies and procedures as appropriate. All 15,600 LTC facilities should have already developed their visitation policies and procedures, as well as any materials used to communicate visitation rights to the residents. Since the requirement went into effect in 2016, LTC facilities would likely have had and will continue to update these policies and procedures and other materials periodically. For example, beginning in 2020, the CDC issued specific guidance for visitation in LTC facilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the burden for any changes required by the COVID-19 pandemic or any other infection prevention or control issue in the LTC facility would be accounted for in the burden under §483.80 Infection control. We believe that any other updates or changes for other reasons would be considered usual and customary business practice for a health care provider. Therefore, this activity is exempt from the PRA in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.3(b)(2).

§483.10(g)(17) Notification of Medicaid Eligibility

Existing regulations require facilities to provide notice to a resident of their Medicaid eligibility. Section 483.10(g)(17) requires facilities to provide an additional notice to residents who are not eligible for Medicaid at admission, when they do become eligible. This means some residents will require both a notice at admission and a second notice. As the notice of Medicaid eligibility is already required once, the additional burden is associated with providing the notice an additional time.

We anticipate that this would likely affect only a subset of residents (those eligible but not yet receiving Medicaid). Thus, based on a data analysis by the American Health Care association (AHCA), approximately 64 percent of LTC facility residents are already Medicaid recipients (that is, Medicaid is the payor of record), 14 percent are covered by Medicare, and 22 percent have another payor. Of those, only the 36 percent who are not receiving Medicaid may require the second notice of Medicaid eligibility. We assume that a portion of those may require ongoing care and become eligible for Medicaid. We also assume that some of those residents would apply for Medicaid at or shortly after admission or as a result of the first notice and not require the second notice. Based on these assumptions, we estimate that 20 percent of LTC

15, 2021.
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¹ Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations to Prevent SARS-CoV-2 Spread in Nursing Homes Nursing Homes & Long-Term Care Facilities. CDC. Accessed at: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html. Updated March 29, 2020. Accessed on April

facility residents or 260,000 residents (slightly more than half of those not already receiving Medicaid) will require a second notice of Medicaid eligibility.

We anticipate that a social worker, with an adjusted hourly wage of \$54, would track a resident's status of Medicaid eligibility and provide the notice. We estimate that this would require an additional 5 minutes per resident of a social worker's time to provide the notice and communicate with the resident. Hence, for each notification, it would require 5 minutes or 0.0833 hours at a cost of \$5 (0.0833×54). The annual burden for all 15,600 facilities would be 21,658 burden hours ($0.0833 \times 260,000$ residents) at a cost \$1,169,532 (21,658 x \$54). We note that the actual per facility cost will vary significantly according to facility size and resident mix.

§483.10(j)(4) Grievances

Facilities are required to establish a grievance policy to ensure the prompt resolution of all grievances. Facilities must notify residents, individually or through postings, of their right to file grievances orally (meaning spoken) or in writing; the right to file grievances anonymously; the contact information of the grievance official with whom a grievance can be filed, that is, his or her name, business address (mailing and email) and business phone number; a reasonable expected time frame for completing the review of the grievance; the right to obtain a written decision regarding his or her grievance; and the contact information of independent entities with whom grievances may be filed. In addition, facilities are required to maintain evidence demonstrating the results of all grievances for a period of no less than 3 years from the issuance of the grievance decision.

The implementation deadline for this requirement was November 28, 2016. Hence, all 15,600 LTC facilities should have already experienced the one-time burden associated with developing the grievance policy and any related materials for their facility. LTC facilities might need to update their policies, procedures, and related materials periodically due to health or business concerns. However, we believe that any updates or changes that are required would be considered usual and customary business practice for a health care provider. Therefore, this activity is exempt from the PRA in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.3(b)(2).

Concerning the requirement for LTC facilities to retain grievance documentation for no less than 3 years from the issuance of the grievance decision, we expect that facilities already have systems in place to store business records. As such, we believe that records of grievance decisions would be stored in these existing systems and any resulting burden would be absorbed by the facility's existing business practices for maintaining records rather than a new burden. Thus, this activity would not be subject to the PRA in accordance with the implementing of regulations of the PRA 5 CFR 1320.3(b)(2).

B. §483.15 Admission, Transfer, and Discharge Rights

§483.15(c)(3) Notice of transfer or discharge

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Section 483.15(c)(3) requires LTC facilities to notify the resident and the resident representative of a transfer or discharge and the reasons for the move in writing and in a language and manner they understand. The LTC facility must also send a copy of this notice to the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman (OSLTCO). Based upon our experience with LTC facilities, although a small number of LTC facilities might send a hard copy of the notice to the OSLTCO, we believe most LTC facilities would provide this notice electronically. LTC facilities would likely mutually decide the manner of delivery with their state's OSLTCO. We have no way to accurately estimate the percentage of LTC facilities that send these notices through the mail. Thus, for purpose of providing a burden estimate for this requirement, we will assume that the notices are provided electronically.

The burden for this activity is the time to create the notice and provide it to the resident or resident representative and forward a copy to the OSLTCO. We believe an administrator at an hourly cost of \$96 would prepare the notice and this would require 10 minutes or 0.1666 hours. For the copy to be forwarded to the OSLTCO, we estimate that an office assistant at an hourly cost of \$36 would require 5 minutes or 0.0833 hours to forward a copy of the notice to the OSLTCO. Per facility costs will vary significantly according to facility size and number of transfers and discharges that occur in each facility. Based on our experience with LTC facilities, we estimate that about one-third or 429,000 residents might require these notices annually. Thus, the burden for these notices for all 15,600 LTC facilities is 107,250 hours (0.25 (0.1666 + 0.0833)) hours x 429,000 at a cost of \$8,151,000 (0.1666 x \$96 or \$16) + (0.0833 x \$36 or \$3) = \$19 x 429,000).

C. §483.21 Comprehensive Resident-Centered Care Planning

§483.21(a) Baseline care plan

Section 483.21(a) requires facilities to develop and implement a baseline care plan for each resident that includes the instructions needed to provide effective and person-centered care of the resident that meet professional standards of quality care. We believe, based on our experience with LTC facilities, that facilities are currently developing some type of interim care plan for residents, prior to developing the comprehensive care plan required at 483.21(b), in order to provide residents with the necessary and appropriate care upon admission into the facility. Furthermore, we expect that the information necessary to complete the baseline care plan will be readily available or accessible through discussions and follow-up upon admission.

Thus, we believe that the need to formally document a baseline care plan and gather the required information would require 1 hour of an RN's time at a cost of \$69 for each newly admitted resident. The number of admissions for each LTC facility will vary substantially. Thus, we will not estimate the burden for each facility but for all the LTC facilities. According to CMS, in calendar year 2020, there were 4,849,712 admissions or entries into LTC facilities.² Of that number, approximately 60 percent of those admissions or 2,909,827 were for new residents. The

² Minimum Data Set 3.0 Public Reports. MDS 3.0 Frequency Report. "A1700 Identification Information – Type of Entry." Accessed at https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Computer-Data-and-Systems/Minimum-Data-Set-3-0-Public-Reports/Minimum-Data-Set-3-0-Frequency-Report. Accessed on April 27, 2021.

other 40 percent were for reentries or readmissions. Thus, for the purpose of this analysis, we will estimate the burden for all LTC facilities for 2,909,827 new admissions who need a baseline care plan prepared. Hence, the burden for all 15,600 LTC facilities would be 2,909,827 hours at a cost of 200,778,063 (2,909,827 x 69).

§483.21(b)(2) Comprehensive care plan

Section 483.21(b)(2) requires a comprehensive care plan for each resident to be developed by an interdisciplinary team (IDT) that includes the attending physician, an RN with responsibility for the resident, a nurse aide with responsibility for the resident, and a member of food and nutrition services staff. Depending upon the resident's needs or his or her requests, other appropriate staff or professionals should be added to the IDT. For example, a resident with emotional or mental health needs may need to have a mental health professional on the IDT or a resident that is undergoing extensive physical therapy may need a physical therapist on the IDT. To the extent practicable, the resident and his or her representative should participate in the IDT meetings. If this is not practicable, the explanation for their participation not being practicable must be documented in the resident's medical record.

We believe that this requirement would add to the current duties of each of these staff members. We expect that communications about the status of a resident are a part of standard job duties and anticipate that these staff members are already regularly discussing resident needs and their plans of care. When quantifying the amount of additional burden associated with this requirement, we believe that this requirement will produce an incremental increase in the staff time necessary to participate on the IDT. We do not specify the type of communication the IDT must use. IDT members may use electronic communication as well as informal discussions to participate in IDT meetings. In addition, one member of the IDT, probably the RN, would need to update the resident's comprehensive care plan. If it is not practicable for the resident or the resident representative to participate in the IDT meetings, the RN would also need to document the reasons for that in the resident's medical record. We believe that the RN would likely update the care plan and make any other necessary documentation to the resident's medical record during the meeting. While we do not require that a dietitian participate on the IDT, for purposes of estimating the cost we will use the salary of a dietitian for the cost estimate.

Therefore, we estimate that participation on the IDT would require an additional one hour for each participant for each meeting at the following adjusted hourly wage: the attending physician at \$171 an hour, an RN at \$69, a nursing aide at \$30, and a member of the food and nutrition services staff at \$58. The burden for each meeting would be 4 hours at an estimated cost of \$328 (\$171 + \$69 + \$30 + \$58). The IDT would need to meet at least four times a year after each quarterly assessment (\$483.21(b)(iii)). Thus, for each resident the LTC facility's burden would be 16 hours annually at a cost of \$1,312 ($4 \times 328). The burden for all 15,600 LTC facilities would be 20,800,000 hours (1,300,000 x 16) at a cost of \$1,705,600,000 (1,300,000 x \$328).

§483.21(c) Discharge Planning Process

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We note that the Discharge Planning Final rule (84 FR 51836) does not cover LTC Facilities. Section 483.21(c)(1) requires facilities to develop and implement a discharge planning process that focuses on the resident's discharge goals, the preparation of residents to be active partners and effectively transition them to post-discharge care, and the reduction of factors leading to preventable readmissions. This includes identifying the discharge needs of each resident and developing a discharge plan; regular re-evaluation of residents to identify changes and subsequent updates/revisions to the discharge plan, as needed; involvement of the IDT in the ongoing process of developing the discharge plan; and documenting that a resident has been asked about their interest in receiving information regarding returning to the community.

For residents who are transferred to another SNF or who are discharged to a HHA, IRF, or LTCH, §483.21(c)(1)(viii) requires facilities to assist residents and their resident representatives in selecting a post-acute care provider by using data that includes, but is not limited to SNF, HHA, IRF, or LTCH standardized patient assessment data, data on quality measures, and data on resource use. The facility also must ensure that the post-acute care standardized patient assessment data, data on quality measures, and data on resource use is relevant and applicable to the resident's goals of care and treatment preferences.

All 15,600 LTC facilities should have already developed their discharge planning process. We also believe that the discharge planning activities would be incorporated into the meetings for the comprehensive care planning. Hence, we are not quantifying any additional burden for this activity.

Regarding the discharge planning, §483.21(c)(1)(ix) requires that the resident's medical record be documented with the IDT's evaluation of the resident's discharge needs and discharge plan. This documentation must be made and updated on a timely basis. If the IDT determines that return to the community is not feasible, the resident's medical record must be documented with that determination and the rationale for it. We believe that the RN would likely document the resident's medical record with the necessary information. The amount of time required for this documentation would vary depending upon the complexity of the resident's healthcare and discharge needs. For LTC residents with an established care routine, this would likely require a minimal amount of time, whereas it would require more time for a resident with complex needs with a goal of returning home in the near future. For the purpose of this analysis, we estimate that this documentation would require an average of 1 hour of an RN's time annually for each resident. According to Table 1, the adjusted hourly wage for an RN is \$69. Hence, the burden to each LTC facility would be 1 hour at an estimated cost of \$69 for each resident. However, we believe that this documentation would likely be performed during the IDT meetings as discharge planning was being discussed. Hence, we will not be assessing a separate burden for this activity since it would be included in the burden for the IDT meetings.

Section 483.21(c)(2) requires that the facility develop a discharge summary when it anticipates that a resident will be discharged. The discharge summary must include, but is not limited to, a recapitulation of the resident's stay, a final summary of the resident's status, a reconciliation of all pre-discharge medications with the resident's post-discharge medications, and a post-discharge plan of care. We believe an RN would prepare the discharge summary. The amount

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of time required for the discharge summary would vary greatly among residents. For the purpose of this analysis, we estimate that it would take an average of 1 hour for the RN to complete the discharge summary for each resident. The number of residents for which a facility must prepare a discharge summary for annually would vary greatly depending upon the number of discharges every year. Hence, we will not be able to estimate a burden for individual LTC facilities but will estimate the burden for all 15,600 facilities. For the purpose of this analysis, we estimate that about one-third of the estimated 1,300,000 or 429,000 residents would require a discharge summary annually. Thus, the burden for all 15,600 LTC facilities would be 429,000 hours $(1,300,000 \times .33)$ at an estimated cost of \$29,601,000 (429,000 x \$69).

D. §483.25 Quality of Care

Section $\S483.25(n)(2)$ states that the LTC facility must review the benefits and risks of bed rails with the resident or resident representative and obtain informed consent prior to installation. The burden associated with this requirement is the time it would take to review the benefits and risks with the resident or the resident representative and obtain informed consent or to document their refusal. We believe that each LTC facility would develop a form for the resident or resident representative to sign and have already done so. We believe this information would need to be presented to all new admissions. Current and readmitted residents should have already had this discussion with the RN and this should be documented in the resident's medical record. We estimate that it would take a registered nurse 10 minutes at a cost of about \$11 (\$69 x .1666) to discuss this information with the new resident or resident representative. As noted above, we have estimated that there are 2,909,827 new residents admitted annually to LTC facilities. Hence, the total burden for all 15,600 LTC facilities is 484,777 hours (2,909,827 x 0.1666) at a cost of \$33,462,999 (484,971 x \$69).

E. §483.55 Dental Services

Section 483.55(a)(3) and 483.55(b)(4) states that a facility may not charge a resident for the loss of or damage to dentures when the loss or damage is the responsibility of the LTC facility. Hence, the facility must have a policy identifying those circumstances when the loss or damage of dentures is the facility's responsibility. The burden associated with this requirement is the time it would take to develop a policy for such circumstances. At this time, all 15,600 should have incurred the one-time burden associated with the development of a policy that complies with this requirement. Thus, we will not estimate any additional or ongoing burden for this requirement.

F. §483.60 Food and Nutrition Services

Under the food safety requirements at CFR 483.60(i)(3), facilities are required to have a policy regarding use and storage of foods brought to residents by family and other visitors to ensure safe and sanitary storage, handling, and consumption of the food. Since the facility staff would assist the resident with storing or reheating the food, it is important for a facility to have guidelines or policies to ensure safe food handling and consistent application of food handling practices. At this time, all 15,600 LTC facilities should have incurred the one-time burden

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associated with the development of the policies that comply with this requirement. Therefore, we will not estimate an additional or ongoing burden for this requirement.

Section 483.60(c)(4) requires facilities to have menus that reflect the cultural and ethnic needs of residents. We expect that LTC facilities will have their menus updated by a qualified dietitian or other clinically qualified nutrition professional after reviewing the facility's facility assessment and conferring with other staff and residents. At this time, we believe that all LTC facilities have prepared menus that comply with this requirement. However, as new residents are admitted to LTC facilities, the facility would need to reassess its menus and make any necessary changes. We anticipate this will require an average of 2 hours annually for the dietician at a cost of \$58 an hour to review the facility assessment, confer with other staff and residents, and make any changes to the menus. Hence, we estimate the annual burden for each LTC facility to be 2 hours at a cost of \$116 (2 x \$58). For all 15,600 LTC facilities, the burden would be 31,200 hours (2 x 15,600) at a cost of \$1,809,600 (31,200 x \$58).

G. §483.70 Administration

Section 483.70(e) requires each facility to conduct, document, and annually review a facility-wide assessment to determine what resources are necessary to care for its residents competently during both daily operations and emergencies. Facilities are required to address in the facility assessment the facility's resident population (that is, number of residents, overall types of care and staff competencies required by the residents, and cultural aspects), resources (for example, equipment, and overall personnel), and a facility-based and community-based risk assessment.

At this time, we believe that all 15,600 LTC facilities have already incurred the one-time burden associated with the development of a formal process, including policies and procedures, on how to do their facility assessments and completed their initial facility assessment that complies with these requirements. Therefore, we are not including an estimate for a burden for these activities.

Each LTC facilities must update and modify its facility assessment as needed and at least annually. We believe that this would primarily require 20 hours each from the LTC facility's administrator at an adjusted hourly cost of \$96 and the DON at an adjusted hourly cost of \$96 to perform the activities necessary to complete this update. The administer and the DON would need to review facility records, including, but not limited to, any survey results, complaints, grievances, etc., and discuss the relevant elements of the assessment with staff and residents to determine if any changes need to be made to the facility's assessment and then make the appropriate updates to the facility assessment. We also believe this would require 1 hour for an office assistant at an adjusted hourly cost of \$36 to finalize the facility assessment with the updates. The burden for each LTC facility would be 41 hours (20 + 20 + 1) at a cost of \$3,876 $((40 \times $96 = $3,840) + (1 \times $36))$. The burden for all 15,600 LTC facilities would be 639,600 hours $(41 \times 15,600)$ at an estimated cost of \$60,465,600 $(15,600 \times $3,876)$.

H. §483.75 Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) Program

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Section 483.75 requires LTC facilities to maintain a Quality Assurance and Assessment (QAA) committee consisting of the DON, the Medical Director or his or her designee, at least three other members of the facility's staff, and the infection preventionist (IP). The committee must meet at least quarterly to identify issues with respect to which quality assessment and assurance activities are necessary. The committee is required to develop and implement appropriate plans of action to correct identified quality deficiencies. Section 483.75 also requires each facility to have a QAPI program and to maintain documentation to demonstrate evidence of its ongoing QAPI program. We believe that all 15,600 LTC facilities have already incurred the one-time burden associated with the establishment of their QAA committees and QAPI programs. Thus, we will not assess a burden for establishing either of these entities.

Concerning the annual burden for the QAA and QAPI program, the LTC facility would need to maintain its QAPI program and its QAA committee that is responsible for coordinating, evaluating, and reporting on the QAPI program activities. For purposes of this analysis and considering the magnitude of their responsibilities, we believe that these activities would require an average of 2 hours each quarter or 8 hours a year for each of the following positions at the indicated adjusted hourly costs: the DON at \$96; the Medical Director at \$171; the IP at \$69; an administrator at \$96; a staff nurse at \$69; and a nursing aide at \$30. The burden for each LTC facility would be 48 burden hours $(2 \times 6 \times 4)$ at an estimated cost of \$4,248 $(2 \times (\$96 + \$171 + 69 + 96 + 69 + 30 = \$531)) \times 4)$. The burden for all 15,600 LTC facilities would be 748,800 hours $(15,600 \times 48)$ at an estimated cost of \$66,268,800 $(15,600 \times \$4,248)$.

I. Section 483.80 Infection Control

This section encompasses all of the ICRs for §483.80 for the 2016 final rule and other rules in Table 2 above. Please note that in the September 2020 Testing IFC, we originally indicated that a PRA package with a new OMB Control Number would be submitted (85 FR 54859); however, CMS reconsidered whether a separate PRA package was necessary and concluded that it was sufficient to include the burden for that IFC in this 2022 PRA package.

A. Section 483.80(a) Infection Prevention and Control Program.

Section 483.80 requires a facility to establish and maintain an infection prevention and control program (IPCP) designed to provide a safe, sanitary, and comfortable environment with the goal of preventing and controlling communicable diseases and infections. Specifically, §483.80(a)(1) states that the facility must establish an IPCP for the prevention, identification, reporting, investigation, and control of infections and communicable diseases. Section 483.80(a) requires that the IPCP include policies and procedures for a system of surveillance designed to identify possible communicable diseases and infections before they can be transmitted to others; when and to whom possible incidents of communicable diseases and infections should be reported to; standard, transmission-based precautions, including the type of isolation, depending upon the infectious organism involved; the circumstance under which the LTC facility must prohibit employees with a communicable disease or infected skin lesion from direct contact with residents or their food, if applicable; hand hygiene procedures to be followed by staff with direct resident contact; an antibiotic stewardship program (ASP), which includes antibiotic use

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protocols and a system to monitor antibiotic use; and, a system for recordkeeping incidents identified under the LTC facility's IPCP and what corrective actions were taken by the facility. In the 2019 PRA package for the LTC requirements, we estimated that the infection preventionist (IP) would need to spend 1 hour per quarter or 3 hours annually to document the IPCP program. Based upon our experience with LTC facilities, we are revising that estimate.

At this point, all LTC facilities should have established their IPCP programs, including the development of the policies and procedures required in §483.80(a). They should have at least one IP who is responsible for the LTC facility's IPCP, which must be maintained, and works at least part-time at the facility. Upon review, we believe that 3 hours annually would be insufficient for an IP to maintain the IPCP. The IP would be responsible for the documentation regarding communicable diseases and infections for the IPCP, the surveillance system, the system for recording incidents of communicable disease and infections in the facility and what, if any, corrective action is taken, as well as the ASP and any other documentation related to the IPCP. In maintaining the IPCP, he or she would also need to stay current with IPC topics to ensure that any appropriate updates or modifications to the IPCP are made in a timely manner. We estimate that this would require an average of 10 hours a month or 120 hours annually for the IP to perform all of the documentation for the LTC facility's IPCP. According to Table 1 above, the adjusted hourly wage for an IP is \$69. Thus, for each LTC facility the annual burden would be 120 hours (10 hours x 12 months) at an estimated cost of \$8,280 (120 hours x \$69). For all 15,600 LTC facilities, the annual burden would be 1,872,000 hours (120 hours x 15,600 facilities) at an estimated cost of \$ 129,168,000 (15,600 facilities x \$8,280).

1. ICRs regarding the development of policies and procedures for § 483.80(d)(3).

At § 483.80(d)(3), we require that LTC facilities develop policies and procedures to ensure that each resident and staff member is educated about the COVID-19 vaccine. Specifically, before offering the COVID-19 vaccine, all staff members and residents or resident representatives must be provided with education regarding the benefits and risks and potential side effects associated with the vaccine. When the vaccine is available to the facility, each resident and staff member is offered COVID-19 vaccine unless the immunization is medically contraindicated or the resident or staff member has already been immunized. If an additional dose of the COVID-19 vaccine that was administered, a booster, or any other vaccine needs to be administered, the resident, resident representative, and staff member must be provided with the current information regarding the benefits and risks and potential side effects for that vaccine, before the LTC facility requests consent for administration of that dose. The resident, resident representative, and staff member must be provided the opportunity to refuse the vaccine and change their decision if they decide to take the vaccine. Finally, the resident's medical record includes documentation that indicates, at a minimum, that the resident or resident representative was provided education regarding the benefits and potential risk associated with the COVID-19 vaccine, and that the resident either received the complete COVID 19 vaccine (series or single dose) or did not receive the vaccine due to medical contraindications or refusal. The estimates that follow are largely based on upon our experience with LTC facilities. However, given the uncertainty and rapidly changing nature of the pandemic, we acknowledge that there will likely need to be significant revisions over time as LTC facilities gain experience with these requirements.

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Based upon our experience with LTC facilities, we believe that some of these facilities have already developed the required policies and procedures. However, since we do not have any reliable method to make an estimate of how many or what percentage of LTC facilities have done so, we will base our estimate for this ICR on all 15,600 LTC facilities needing to develop new policies and procedures in order to comply with this requirement. These facilities also need to review the policies and procedures to ensure they are up-to-date and make any necessary changes. We believe these activities would be performed by the infection preventionist (IP), director of nursing (DON), and medical director in the first year and the IP in subsequent years as analyzed below.

In the first year, the IP would need to develop the policies and procedures by conducting research and obtaining the necessary information and materials to draft the policies and procedures. The IP would need to work with the medical director and DON to develop and finalize the policies and procedures. For the IP, we estimate that this would require 10 hours initially to develop the policies and procedures, and one hour a month thereafter to review and make changes or updates as needed, for a total of 21 hours (10 hours initially and 1 hour for the 11 months thereafter). According to Table 1 above, the IP's adjusted hourly cost is \$69. Thus, for each LTC facility the burden for the IP would be 21 hours at a cost of \$1,449 (21 hours x \$69). For the IPs in all 15,600 LTC facilities, the burden would be 327,600 hours (21 hours x 15,600 facilities) at an estimated cost of \$22,604,400 (\$1,449 x 15,600). For subsequent years, the IP would need to review the policies and procedures and make any updates or changes to them. Hence, we estimate that the IP would need 12 hours annually (1 hour x 12 months) at a cost of \$828 (12 hours x \$69). For all LTC facilities, the annual burden would be 187,200 hours (12 x 15,600) at a cost of \$12,916,800 (15,600 x \$828).

As discussed above, the development and approval of these policies and procedures would also require activities by the medical director and the DON. Both the medical director and the DON would need to have meetings with the IP to discuss the development, evaluation, and approval of the policies and procedures. We estimate that this would require 4 hours for both the medical director and DON. According to Table 1 above, the adjusted hourly cost for a medical director is \$171. For each LTC facility, this would require 4 hours for the medical director during the first year at an estimated cost of \$684 (4 hours x \$171). For the first year, the burden would be $62,400 \ (4 \times 15,600)$ at an estimated cost of \$10,670,400 (\$684 x 15,600). For subsequent years, the medical director might need to spend time reviewing or attending meetings to discuss any updates or changes to the policies and procedures; however, that would be a usual and customary business practice. Therefore, these activities for the medical director associated with updating or changing the policies and procedures are exempt from the PRA in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.3(b)(2).

For the DON, we have estimated that the development of policies and procedures would also require 4 hours. According to the chart above, the total hourly cost for the DON is \$96. The burden in the first year for the DON in each LTC facility would be 4 hours at an estimated cost of \$384 (4 hours x \$96). The first-year burden would be 62,400 hours (4 x 15,600) at an estimated cost of \$5,990,400 (\$384 x 15,600). For subsequent years, the DON would likely need

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to spend time reviewing or attending meetings to discuss any updates or changes to the policies and procedures; however, that would be a usual and customary business practice. Therefore, these activities for the DON associated with updating or changing the policies and procedures are exempt from the PRA in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.3(b)(2).

Therefore, for each LTC facility the burden for the first year would be 29 (21 + 4 + 4) hours at a cost of \$2,517 (($21 \times $69 = $1,449$) + ($4 \times $96 = 384) + ($4 \times $96 = 384)). For all 15,600 LTC facilities in the first year, the estimated burden for this ICR would be 452,400 hours (($21 \times 15,600 = 327,600$) + ($4 \times 15,600 = 62,400$) + ($4 \times 15,600 = 62,400$)) at a cost of \$39,265,200 (\$2,517 x 15,600).

In subsequent years, each of the 15,600 LTC facilities would have a burden of 12 hours at an estimated cost of \$828 (12 hours \times \$69) for the IP. Hence, for all 15,600 LTC facilities, the burden would be 187,200 (12 x 15,600) at an estimated cost of \$12,916,800 (\$828 x 15,600).

2. ICRs regarding LTC Facilities offering the COVID-19 vaccine and obtaining and documenting consent for § 483.80(d)(3)(ii) to (iv).

At § 483.80(d)(3)(i), we require that the facility offer the COVID-19 vaccine to each staff member and resident, when the vaccination is available to the facility, unless the vaccine is medically contraindicated, the resident has already been vaccinated, or the resident or the resident representative has already refused the vaccine. We believe that the LTC facility will offer the vaccine to the staff or resident at the same time the facility provides the education required by § 483.80(d)(3)(ii) and (iii). We note that for LTC facilities contracted with the Pharmacy Partnership, the education and offering of the vaccine are being done by the participating pharmacy. We assume that this cost is about the same as the preceding estimates, so that the first-year costs would be about the same whether performed entirely in-house by facility staff or by pharmacy staff who visit the facility.

As indicated in the next section, the facility must also ensure that the provision of the education and the resident's decision must be documented in the resident's medical record. If there is a contraindication to the resident having the vaccination, the appropriate documentation must be made in the resident's chart. Documentation regarding a resident's medical care is a usual and customary business practice for a health care provider. Therefore, this activity is exempt from the PRA in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.3(b)(2).

3. ICRs regarding staff education requirements in § 483.80(d)(3)(ii) through (iv).

At § 483.80(d)(3)(ii), we require that the LTC facility provide all of its staff with education regarding the benefits and potential risks of the COVID-19 vaccine. This would require that the LTC facility develop or choose educational materials for this staff training. We expect that most if not all LTC facilities will use resources developed by other entities as there is a considerable amount of free information on COVID-19 and vaccines available online. The CMS Nursing Home COVID-19 training program has five modules designed for the frontline clinical staff and ten modules for nursing home management staff (building maintenance staff and other support

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staff would not take these particular courses). The training is online, at http://QSEP.cms.gov, and is summarized in a CMS press release that can be found at https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-releases-nursing-home-covid-19-training-data-urgent-call-action. In addition, both CDC and FDA provide information on the COVID-19 vaccines online. Finally, we expect that trade publications and other public sources would provide training materials that might complement or substitute for the CMS materials. We believe this educational material would likely be selected by the IP. The IP would need to review the information available on the vaccines, determine what information needs to be presented to staff, and gather that information as appropriate for their facility's staff. We estimate that it would take an average of 4 hours for the IP to accomplish these tasks. Thus, for each LTC facility to meet this requirement would require 4 burden hours at an estimated cost of \$276 (4 x \$69). For all 15,600 LTC facilities, the burden would be 62,400 burden hours (4 x 15,600) at an estimated cost of \$4,305,600 (15,600 facilities x \$276).

At § 483.80(d)(3)(iii), we require that LTC facilities provide their residents or resident representatives with education regarding the benefits and risks and potential side effects associated with the COVID-19 vaccine. We believe that the education provided to staff and residents or resident representatives will be identical or virtually the same. Hence, we believe that it will not require any additional time or burden to develop the educational materials for the residents and resident representatives. According to § 483.10(g)(3), the facility must ensure that information is provided to each resident in a form and manner the resident can access and understand, including in an alternative format or in a language that the resident can understand. Thus, we expect that this required education would be in a language that the resident or the resident representative understands. Language translations for residents may be available in many facilities from staff, and are virtually always available on demand through services, such as Language Line. LTC facilities are already required to provide information in an alternative format or language the resident or resident representative understands. Thus, we will not estimate any additional burden for this activity.

At § 483.80(d)(3)(iv), we require that the LTC facility must provide to the staff, resident, or the resident representative, in situations where the vaccination process requires one or more doses of vaccine, up-to-date information regarding the vaccine, including any changes in the benefits or risks and potential side effects associated with the COVID-19 vaccine, before requesting consent for administration of each additional vaccinations. This would require that the IP remains up-to-date on information regarding COVID-19 vaccines and ensures the information provided to the resident and the resident representative before requesting consent for the administration of each additional dose of vaccine includes current information on the benefits and potential risks associated with the vaccine. We believe that this activity would require that the IP routinely review CDC and FDA websites for updates and make any necessary changes to the education materials used by the LTC facility. We estimate that this would require 6 hours of an IP's time

³ CDC. Communication Resources for COVID-19 Vaccines. Access at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/resource-center.html. Updated March 16, 2021. Accessed on March 23, 2021.

⁴ FDA. COVID-19 Vaccines. Access at https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-vaccines. Updated March 18, 2021. Accessed on March 23, 2021.

annually. Thus, for each LTC facility to meet this requirement would require 6 burden hours at an estimated cost of \$414 (6 x \$69). For all LTC facilities, the annual burden would be 93,600 (6 hours x 15,600 facilities) hours at an estimated cost of \$6,458,400 (15,600 x \$414). We estimate that the burden to the LTC facilities will be similar in subsequent years due to the large turnover in these facilities.

4. ICRs regarding the documentation requirements in § 483.80(d)(3)(vi) and (vii).

At § 483.80(d)(3)(vi), we require that the facility ensure that the resident's medical record is documented with, at a minimum, that the resident or resident representative was provided education regarding the benefits and potential risks associated with the COVID-19 vaccine and that the resident either received the COVID-19 vaccine, did not receive the vaccine due to medical contraindications, or refused the vaccine. This would require that a health care provider, probably a licensed nurse, would retrieve the resident's medical record and document that the education was provided and whether the resident or resident representative had consented or refused the vaccine or whether the vaccine was contraindicated. We estimate that this would require only a few seconds per resident, but estimate no burden as maintaining a medical record is a usual and customary business practice. Therefore, this activity is exempt from the PRA in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.3(b)(2).

The LTC facility would also be required to document that the required education was provided to its staff that must include the benefits and potential risks associated with of the COVID-19 vaccine as set forth in § 483.80(d)(3)(ii). Section 483.80(d)(3)(vii) sets forth that the LTC facility must maintain documentation on its staff regarding the education provided; that the staff person was offered the COVID-19 vaccine or information on obtaining the vaccine; and his or her vaccine status and related information as indicated by the NSHN. This would require that a staff person document the required information in the staff person's record. We estimate that this would require one half-hour per month per facility. According to Table 1 above, the total hourly cost of an office assistant is \$36. For each LTC facility, we estimate that the annual burden for this activity would be 6 hours at an estimated cost of \$216 (6 x \$36). For all LTC facilities, this would require 93,600 (6 x 15,600) burden hours at an estimated cost of \$3,369,600 (15,600 x \$216). We estimate that the burden to the LTC facilities will be similar in subsequent years due to the large turnover in these facilities.

5. ICRs regarding the reporting requirements to CMS and CDC (NHSN) § 483.80(g).

The ICRs in § 483.80(g) were finalized on November 9, 2021 in a final rule entitled, "Medicare and Medicaid Programs: CY 2022 Home Health Prospective Payment System Rate Update; Home Health Value-Based Purchasing Model Requirements and Model Expansion; Home Health and Other Quality Reporting Program Requirements; Home Infusion Therapy Services Requirements;, Survey and Enforcement Requirements for Hospice Programs; Medicare Provider Enrollment Requirements; and COVID-19 Reporting Requirements for Long-Term Care Facilities (86 FR 62240) (CMS-1747—F and CMS-5531-F) (November 2021 FR). Section 483.80(g)(1) – (3) requires LTC facilities to electronically report the following information about COVID-19 in a standardized format to the NHSN weekly, unless otherwise specified by the

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Secretary: the suspected and confirmed COVID-19 infections among residents and staff, including residents previously treated for COVID-19; total deaths and COVID-19 deaths among residents and staff; personal protective equipment and hand hygiene supplies in the facility; ventilator capacity and supplies in the facility; resident beds and census; access to COVID-19 testing while a resident is in the facility; staffing shortages; and the COVID-19 vaccine status of residents and staff, including the total numbers of residents and staff, numbers of residents and staff vaccinated, numbers of each dose of COVID-19 vaccine received, and COVID-19 vaccination adverse events. Section 483.80(g)(3) requires that the LTC facility must also inform its residents, their representatives, and the families of those residing at the facility by 5 p.m. the next calendar day following the occurrence of either a single confirmed COVID-19 infection or three or more residents or staff with new-onset respiratory symptoms within 72 hours of each other. The information must not include personally identifiable information; include information on mitigating actions implemented to prevent or reduce the risk of transmission, including if normal operations of the facility will be altered; and include any cumulative updates for residents, their representatives, and families at least weekly or by 5 p.m. the next calendar day following the subsequent occurrence of either: each time a confirmed COVID-19 infection is identified or whenever three or more resident or staff with new onset of respiratory symptoms occur within 72 hours of each other. This section also includes a sunset date of December 31, 2024 for all requirements, except for (g)(1)(viii) that requires the LTC facility to report the COVID-19 vaccine status of residents and staff.

The ICRs in this section require that the IP update the policies and procedures for the LTC facility's IPCP to comply with the requirements in this section. The IP earns an adjusted hourly wage of \$69. We estimate that it would require 1 hour of the IP's time to update the required policies and procedures to comply with the changes in this rule. For each LTC facility, the burden would be 1 hour at an estimated cost of \$69. According to CMS, there are currently $15,600 \, \text{LTC}$ facilities. Hence, the total burden for this requirement would be $15,600 \, \text{hours}$ ($1 \times 15,600 \, \text{mathematical}$) at an estimated cost of $1,076,400 \, \text{mathematical}$ ($15,600 \, \text{mathematical}$).

The ICRs in this section also require that a staff member, probably the IP, to locate the appropriate information and electronically report the required information weekly to the NHSN. In addition, the IP would need to identify and inform the residents, their representatives, and the families of those residing at the facility of the information required in § 483.80(g)(3). Depending upon the degree of respiratory illnesses and COVID-19 infections in each LTC facility, the burden required by these ICRs would vary substantially between LTC facilities. For purposes of this analysis, we estimate that these ICRs would require the IP 60 minutes or 1 hour each week. According to Table 1 above, an IP's adjusted hourly wage is \$69. Hence, for each LTC facility the annual burden would be 52 hours (1 hour x 52 weeks) at an estimated cost of \$3,588 (52 x \$69). For all 15,600 LTC facilities, the annual burden would be 811,200 hours (15,600 x 52) at an estimated cost of \$55,972,800 (15,600 x \$3,588).

Hence, the total annual burden for the ICRs in the first year for each LTC facility is 53 hours (1 \pm 52) at an estimated cost of \$3,657 (\$69 \pm \$3,588). For all 15,600 LTC facilities in the first year of these requirements, the total annual burden would be 826,800 (53 x 15,600) at an estimated cost of \$57,049,200 (\$1,076,400 \pm \$55,972,800). For subsequent years, the total

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annual burden for all 15,600 LTC facilities would be 811,200 hours (52 x 15,600) at an estimated cost of \$55,972.800. After the sunset date of December 31, 2024, we anticipate that the burden for the ICRs in this section would decrease substantially. Since that reduction in burden will occur after December 31, 2024, it will be accounted for in 2025 PRA package for the LTC requirements.

6. ICRs regarding the documentation requirements in §483.80(h).

The September 2020 Testing IFC finalized § 483.80(h) requires LTC facilities to test residents and facility staff, including individuals providing services under arrangement and volunteers, for COVID-19. Each LTC facility would be required to modify its IPCP with the policies and procedures necessary to require the testing. For each resident, the LTC facility would be required to document that the testing was offered, completed and the results of each test. For staff members, the test results would also need to be documented. This would require that the LTC facility develop or modify its policies and procedures as necessary to comply with the necessary testing and documentation requirements and perform the required documentation. We believe that developing the necessary policies and procedures in the LTC facility's IPCP would require 2 hours for an IP at an adjusted hourly wage of \$69 to develop the necessary policies and procedures. We also believe that the development of these policies and procedures would require 0.5 hours from the DON and 0.5 hours from an administrator both at an adjusted hourly wage of \$96 to assist, review and approve the policies and procedures. Hence, the estimated burden for the development of these policies and procedures for each LTC facility is 3 hours (2 + .5 + .5) at an estimated cost of \$234 ((2 x \$69) or \$138 + (1 x \$96). For all 15,600 LTC facilities, the burden would be 46,800 hours (15,600 x 3) at an estimated cost of \$3,650,400 (15,600 x \$234).

In Section I.A. above, we estimated that the documentation activities required under the LTC facility's IPCP would require 10 hours monthly or 120 hours annually for an IP. We believe that estimate is sufficient to account for the burden for the documentation under this requirement also.

COI	First Year	First Year	Subsequent	Subsequent
Requirements	Burden Hours	Costs	Years Burden	Years Costs
			Hours	
§483.80(d)(3)	452,400	\$39,265,200	187,200	\$12,916,800
Developing				
Policies and				
Procedures				
§483.80(d)(3)(ii)	62,400	\$4,305,600	N/A	N/A
& (iii)				
Developing				
education				
materials for				

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COI Requirements	First Year Burden Hours	First Year Costs	Subsequent Years Burden Hours	Subsequent Years Costs
staff members and residents and residents' representatives			Hours	
§483.80(d)(3)(iv) Keeping vaccine information up- to-date and making necessary changes	93,600	\$6,458,400	93,600	\$6,458,400
§483.80(d)(3)(vi) and (vii) Documentation requirements	93,600	\$3,369,600	93,600	\$3,369,600
§483.80(g) NHSN Reporting	826,800	\$57,049,200	811,200	\$55,972,800
§483.80(h) Documentation of testing requirements	46,800	\$3,650,400	N/A	N/A
Totals	1,575,600	\$114,098,400	1,185,600	\$78,717,600

J. §483.85 Compliance and Ethics Program

Section 483.85 requires the operating organization for each LTC facility to have in operation a compliance and ethics program (CEP) that is effective in preventing and detecting criminal, civil, and administrative violations under the Act and promoting quality of care.

For the purpose of determining a burden, we have estimated a burden based on the number of SNF and NF operating organizations. Since it would be the individual facilities that would be surveyed and not the operating organization, operating organizations would need to ensure that the appropriate documentation is available at all of their individual facilities in order to demonstrate compliance with all of the relevant requirements. Therefore, the burden we have assessed for the operating organization would encompass their working with staff at their individual facilities.

We believe that all 15,600 LTC facilities have already experienced the one-time burden associated with the development of a CEP, including the necessary policies and procedures that comply with the requirements in this section. Therefore, we will not assess any additional burden for developing a CEP program.

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Section 483.85(e) requires that the operating organizations for each facility must review its CEP annually and revise its CEP to reflect changes in all applicable laws or regulations and within the operating organization and its facilities to improve its performance in deterring, reducing, and detecting violations under the Act and in promoting quality of care. Thus, each operating organization would need to review and update its CEP according to this requirement at least annually.

Based on our experience with SNFs and NFs, we expect that the administrator and the DON would primarily be involved in reviewing and updating the LTC facility's CEP. For LTC facilities with five or more facilities, we believe the compliance officer and at least one compliance liaison would also be involved in reviewing and updating the CDP. Based on PECOS and CASPER data, for purposes of this regulation, we estimate that there are 6,451 total operating organizations (466 operating organizations with 5 or more facilities, 311 operating organizations with 2 to 4 facilities, and 5,674 operating organizations with a single facility). For the operating organizations with 4 or fewer facilities, or 6140 operating organizations (466 + 5,674), we believe it would require an administrator at an adjusted hourly cost of \$96 and a DON at an adjusted hourly cost of \$96 about 10 hours each to review and update the operating organization's CEP. In addition, we believe that it would require 1 hour for an office assistant to make the changes and finalize the revised CEP. Hence, the annual burden for each of these operating organizations would be 21 hours (10 + 10 + 1) at an estimated cost of \$1,916 ((10 x \$96) + (10 x \$96) + (1 x 36)). The burden for all 6,140 operating organizations with fewer than 5 facilities would be 128,940 hours $(21 \times 6,140)$ at a cost of \$11,764,240 $(6,140 \times $1,916)$.

For the 466 operating organizations that have five or more facilities, we believe the compliance officer and at least one of the compliance liaisons would also be involved in the review and update of the CEP. For the purpose of this analysis, we believe the reviewing and updating of the CEP would require 6 hours from an administrator at an hourly cost of \$96; 6 hours from a DON at an hourly cost of \$94; 10 hours from the compliance officer at an hourly cost of \$96; 6 hours from a compliance liaison at an adjusted hourly cost of \$69; and one hour from an office assistant to compile the revisions and finalize the CEP at an adjusted hourly cost of \$36. The burden for each of these operating organizations would be 29 hours (6 + 6 + 10 + 6 + 1) at an estimated cost of \$2,562 ($(6 \times $96) + (6 \times $96) + (10 \times $96) + (6 \times $69) + (1 \times $36)$). For all 466 of these operating organizations, the burden would be 13,514 hours (466 organizations x 29 hours) at a cost of \$1,193,892 (466 x \$2,562).

Thus, for all 15,600 LTC facilities the burden for this section would be 142,454 (128,940 + 13,514) at a cost of \$12,958,132 (\$11,764,240 + \$1,193,892).

K. §483.90 Physical Environment

Section 483.90 (i)(5) states that the facility must establish policies, in accordance with applicable Federal, State and local laws and regulations, regarding smoking, smoking areas, and smoking safety that also consider non-smoking residents. We believe that most facilities have already experienced the one-time burden associated with the development of a smoking policy that is in

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accordance with the applicable Federal, State and local laws and regulations. Thus, we will not be estimating any additional burden for this requirement.

L. §483.95 Training Requirements

General Training Topics (§483.95(a) through 483.95(e))

Section §483.95(a) requires facilities to develop, implement, and maintain an effective training program for all new and existing staff, individuals providing services under a contractual arrangement, and volunteers, consistent with their expected roles. The required training must include, but is not limited to, topics on communication; resident rights and facility obligations; abuse, neglect, and exploitation; behavioral health; and the LTC facility's infection prevention and control program (IPCP) and its QAPI program. We also expect each facility to keep a record of these trainings. To reduce regulatory burden and provide LTC facilities with flexibility, we have not specified the number of hours or how the LTC facility must provide the required training. There are various free online training tools and resources that facilities can use to assist them in complying with this requirement. For example, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) released a set of training modules to help educate LTC facility staff on key patient safety concepts to improve the safety of LTC facility residents that can be found online at http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/systems/long-term-care/resources/facilities/ptsafety/. In addition to the web-based materials, instructor and student handbooks can be sent to facilities at no additional cost. Therefore, we believe that the cost associated with this requirement will be limited to the staff time required to review and update their current training materials.

All LTC facilities have likely already experienced the one-time burden associated with the development of their training program. Hence, we will not access any additional burden for developing the training materials.

Compliance and Ethics Program Training (§483.95(f))

We require that SNF and NF operating organizations include as part of their compliance and ethics program an effective way to communicate their program's standards, policies, and procedures. We believe that all operating organizations would need to develop training materials and/or other publications to comply with the training requirement. This regulation requires higher standards for organizations operating 5 or more facilities, therefore our cost estimates differentiate by organization size. For operating organizations with less than 5 facilities, they are required to "disseminate" information on their organization's CEP. These operating organizations may choose to include the required information with other training or disseminate the information in another way. At this time, all 15,600 LTC facilities have likely already experienced the one-time burden associated with the development of their CEP and decided how to disseminate the appropriate information about the CEP to their staff and residents. Thus, we will not be quantifying any additional burden for this requirement.

For the 466 operating organizations with 5 or more LTC facilities, the operating organization must provide a mandatory annual training program for its CEP. At this time, all of these

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operating organizations should have developed the training materials and would not have any additional burden for this requirement. Thus, we will not assess any burden for this requirement.

Dementia Management and Abuse Prevention Training (§483.95(g))

Each facility is already required to complete a performance review of every nurse aide (NA) at least once every 12 months, and must provide in-service education based on the outcome of these reviews. Section 483.95(g) requires a facility to include dementia management and abuse prevention in their regular in-service education for all NAs.

Existing regulation at §483.95 already requires that NAs who provide services to individuals with cognitive impairments receive in-service training to address the care of the cognitively impaired. Based on the existing requirements, facilities already conduct training for some NAs on caring for residents who are cognitively impaired. Additionally, existing regulations at §483.95 state that NAs must receive in-service training that addresses areas of weakness as determined in their performance reviews and may address the special needs of residents, as determined by the facility staff. Thus, NAs receive annual training in dementia management and abuse prevention only if the training is indicated by their performance reviews.

Because the 2016 LTC final rule specifically require facilities to provide dementia management and abuse prevention training to all NAs, each facility would need to review their training procedures and materials to ensure that they are complying with these requirements. For example, facilities may currently provide the in-service training (as identified from the performance review) utilizing an individual, targeted approach. All NAs would be required to receive this training annually, and the facility would need to evaluate whether another format might be more appropriate.

We are not adding additional burden for the staff to train the NAs, since the existing requirements for facilities require them to provide in-service training to all NAs at least once every 12 months. We estimate that the burden associated with complying with this requirement would be a one-time burden due to the resources required to review and, if necessary, modify the existing training materials to apply to all NAs, regardless of identified performance weaknesses. At this point, all LTC facilities should have completed this review and modification of their training materials. Hence, we will not assess any burden for this activity.

The table below summarizes the estimated annual reporting and recordkeeping burden.

Table 4 - Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Burdens

Regulation Section(s) (§)	Number of Respondents	Number of Responses	Burden per Response (hours)	Total Annual Burden (hours)	Total Annual Cost (\$)
483.10(c)(2)	1,300,000	5,320,000	0.0333	173,333	11,959,977
483.10(g)	260,000	260,000	0.08333	21,658	1,169,532

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Regulation	Number of	Number of	Burden per	Total	Total Annual
Section(s)	Respondents	Responses	Response	Annual	Cost (\$)
(§)			(hours)	Burden	
				(hours)	
(17)					
483.15(c)(4)	15,600	429,000	0.25	107,250	8,151,000
483.21(a)	15,600	2,909,827	1	2,909,827	200,778,063
483.21(b)(2)	15,600	5,200,000	4	20,800,000	1,705,600,000
483.21(c)	15,600	429,000	1	429,000	29,601,000
483.25(n)(2)	15,600	2,909,827	0.1666	484,777	33,462,999
483.60(c)(4)	15,600	15,600	2	31,600	1,809,600
483.70(e)	15,600	15,600	41	639,600	60,465,600
483.75	15,600	62,400	12	748,800	66,268,800
483.80(a)	15,600	15,600	120	1,872,000	129,168,000
483.80(d)(3)	15,600	15,600	29	452,400	39,265,200
483.80(d)(3)	15,600	15,600	4	62,400	4,305,600
(ii) & (iii)					
483.80(d)(3)	15,600	15,600	6	93,600	6,458,400
(iv)					
483.80(d)(3)	15,600	187,200	0.5	93,600	3,369,600
(vi) & (vii)					
483.80(g)	15,600	826,800	2	826,800	57,049,200
483.80(h)	15,600	15,600	3	46,800	3,650,400
483.85(e)	15,600	15,600	24/32	142,454	12,958,132
Totals	1,809,600	18,658,854	250/258	29,935,899	2,375,491,103

13. Capital Costs

There are no capital/maintenance costs associated.

14. Cost to Federal Government

The Federal government will sustain a burden from implementing and enforcing these requirements. Specifically, CMS had to update the interpretive guidance, update the survey process, and make IT systems changes. The majority of those system costs would have been incurred between FY17 and FY18. We estimated initial federal start-up costs between \$15 and \$20 million for the 2016 final rule. Since those costs have already been incurred, the federal costs result from the improved surveys to review the additional requirements issued since 2016, update guidance, and make minor IT changes and are estimated at \$3.75 to \$5 million annually.

15. Changes to Burden

There are substantial changes between the 2019 PRA package that was approved and the current or 2022 PRA package. Those changes are explained below.

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- A. Changes related to all estimates of burden hours and costs.
 - (1) Changes in the estimate for LTC facilities and residents.

In the 2019 PRA package, we used 15,639 as the number of LTC facilities and 1,333,745 for the number of residents. These numbers were taken from CMS internal data. However, in the current or 2022 PRA package, due to the annual changes in the internal data, we chose to use estimates of 15,600 for LTC facilities and 1,300,000 for residents. We were also able to locate estimates for admissions and re-admissions for this package that were not discoverable for the 2019 PRA package.

(2) Changes in cost estimates due to BLS data.

In the 2019 PRA package, we used the BLS salary data that was current at the time the package was developed. That data was from May, 2017. The BLS salary data is updated each year. The BLS salary data used in this package is from May, 2020. Since the mean hourly wage for most occupations has increased, the adjusted hourly wage for most occupations also increased.

The change in each section will be discussed below. The actual numbers are detailed in the chart below.

- B. Changes in specific sections.
 - (1) Burden changes due to revision of data estimates.

As described above, the estimated burden hours and costs were modified in this PRA package due to a revision in the estimates for the number of LTC facilities, residents, and admissions/readmissions. In addition, the estimates were modified as indicated by the mean hourly wage in the BLS data from May, 2020. Those sections are: §§483.10(c)(2), 483.10(g)(17), 483.21(a), 483.25(n)(2), 483.60(c)(4), 483.90(i)(5), and 483.95(a)-(g).

(2) Burden no longer applicable.

Some of the burden accounted for in the 2019 PRA package was for the development of policies or procedures. Those specific sections are: §§483.10(f)(4)(v)-(vi) (resident visitation), 483.55 (dental care), 483.60(i)(3) (sanitary storage, handling, and consumption of food brought into facility for residents), 483.90 (smoking), and 483.95 (development of training program). At this time, all of the LTC facilities should have developed the necessary policies and procedures to comply with the requirements in those sections. Hence, we have not included any burden in this 2022 PRA package for the development of these policies and procedures.

(3) Burden changes due to a revision in the estimate.

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Based upon our experience with LTC facilities, we have reassessed the burden for several sections. We believe these revisions more accurately reflect the burden that LTC facilities would incur from the COI requirements in the LTC requirements. Those sections are: §§483.15(3), 483.21(b)(2)(ii), 483.21(c), 483.70(e), 483.75, and 483.85(e).

(4) Burden changes due to new COI requirements.

As described above in "Section I. 483.80 Infection control," two rules were published since the 2019 PRA package and those COI requirements are accounted for in this 2022 package. The burden for that section is explained in detail above.

The change in annual burden hours between the 2019 PRA package and the current or 2022 package is 25,013,456 hours. The change in the annual costs is \$2,039,189,039. These costs are detailed in the chart below.

Table 5 - Burden Changes Since 2019 PRA Package Approved

Regulation	2019	2019	2022	2022 Total	Change	Change in
Section(s) (§)	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual	in	Annual
	Burden	Cost (\$)	Burden	Cost (\$)	Annual	Cost (\$)
	(hours)	, ,	(hours)	, ,	Hours	Ì
483.10(c)(2)	177,832	11,203,416	173,333	11,959,077	-4,499	755,661
483.10(f)(4) (v) - (vi)	39,098	3,026,147	N/A	N/A	-39,098	-3,026,147
483.10(g)(17)	22,229	1,089,225	21,658	1,169,532	-571	80,307
483.10(j)	26,065	4,128.696	N/A	N/A	-26,065	-4,128,696
483.15(c)(4)	37,049	1,473,047	107,250	8,151,000	70,201	6,677,953
483.21(a)	15,639	985,257	2,909,827	200,778,063	2,894,188	199,792,806
483.21(b)(2)(ii)	813,228	66,684,696	20,800,000	1,705,600,000	19,986,772	1,638,915,304
483.21(c)	758,442	44,680,605	429,000`	29,601,000	-329,442	-15,079,605
483.25(n)(2)	222,291	14,004,323	484,777	33,462,999	262,486	19,458,676
483.55	31,278	2,783,742	N/A	N/A	-31,278	-2,783,742
483.60(c)(4)	31,278	1,751,568	31,600	1,809,600	322	58,032
483.60(i)(3)	15,639	1,047,813	N/A	N/A	-15,639	-1,047,813
483.70(e)	344,058	31,309,278	639,600	60,465,600	295,542	29,156,322
483.75(a) (est. new QAPI reqs.)	291,928	26,148,408	N/A	N/A	-291,928	-26,148,408
483.75(b)(2) (ongoing burden)	625,560	52,296,816	748,800	66,268,800	123,240	13,971,984
483.80 (documentation)	62,556	3,941,028	1,872,000	129,168,000	1,809,444	125,226,972
483.80(d)(3)	N/A	N/A	452,400	39,265,200	452,400	39,265,200
483.80(d)(3)(ii) & (iii)	N/A	N/A	62,400	4,305,600	62,400	4,305,600
483.80(d)(vi)	N/A	N/A	93,600	6,458,400	93,600	6,458,400
483.80(d)(3)(vi) & (vii)	N/A	N/A	93,600	3,369,600	93,600	3,369,600
483.80(g)	N/A	N/A	826,800	57,049,200	826,800	57,049,200

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Regulation Section(s) (§)	2019 Annual	2019 Annual	2022 Annual	2022 Total Annual	Change in	Change in Annual
	Burden	Cost (\$)	Burden	Cost (\$)	Annual	Cost (\$)
	(hours)		(hours)		Hours	
483.80(h)	N/A	N/A	46,800	3,650,400	46,800	3,650,400
483.85(b)	52,792	5,112,025	N/A	N/A	-52,792	-5,112,025
483.85(c)	21,997	1,957,703	N/A	N/A	-21,997	-1,957,703
483.85(d)(1)	17,597	\$1,108,632	N/A	N/A	-17,597	-1,108,632
483.85(e)	65,990	5,873,110	142,454	12,958,132	76,464	7,085,022
483.90(i)(5)	62,556	3,941,028	N/A	N/A	-62,556	-3,941,028
483.95(a) through 483.95(e)	265,863	17,781,543	N/A	N/A	-265,863	-17,781,543
483.95(f)	32,122	2,045,630	N/A	N/A	-32,122	-2,045,630
483.95(g)	62,556	3,941,028	N/A	N/A	-62,556	-3,941,028
Totals	4,095,643	308,314,764	29,530,299	2,347,503,803	25,013,456	2,039,189,039

16. Publication/Tabulation Dates

There are no plans to publish the information collected, except for those required in §483.80(g) (1)(viii). That section requires LTC facilities to electronically report information about COVID-19 in a standardized format to the NHSN about the COVID-19 vaccine status of residents and staff, including total numbers of residents and staff, numbers of residents and staff vaccinated, numbers of each dose of COVID-19 vaccine received, and COVID-19 vaccination adverse events. The LTC facility must also report the therapeutics administered to residents for treatment of COVID-19. LTC facilities will report the required information weekly and it will be published in the NHSN.

17. Expiration Date

CMS will publish a notice in the Federal Register to inform the public of both the approval and the expiration date. In addition, the public will be able to access the expiration date on OMB's website by performing a search using the OMB control number. The expiration date will also be published on www.cms.gov at

https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/CFCsAndCoPs/LTC.

18. Certification Statement

We have not identified any exceptions.