

NW., Washington, DC 20420 or email: [nancy.kessinger@va.gov](mailto:nancy.kessinger@va.gov). Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0518” in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 632–8924 or FAX (202) 632–8925.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13; 44 U.S.C. 3501–3521), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA’s functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

*Title:* Income Verification, VA Form 21–0161a.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900–0518.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* VA Form 21–0161a is completed by employers of beneficiaries who have been identified as having inaccurately reported their income to VA. The data collected is used to determine the beneficiary’s entitlement to income dependent benefits.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 15,000 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:* 30 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* One time.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 30,000.

By direction of the Secretary.

**William F. Russo,**

*Deputy Director, Office of Regulations Policy and Management, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2012–25872 Filed 10–19–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320–01–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

[OMB Control No. 2900–0742]

**Proposed Information Collection (Survey of Chronic Gastrointestinal Illness in Persian Gulf Veterans (Irritable Bowel Syndrome—Diarrhea)) Activity: Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on information needed to evaluate chronic gastrointestinal disorders in Persian Gulf War Veterans.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before December 21, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov); or to Cynthia Harvey Pryor, Veterans Health Administration (10P7BFP), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420 or email: [cynthia.harvey-pryor@va.gov](mailto:cynthia.harvey-pryor@va.gov). Please refer to “2900–0742” in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cynthia Harvey-Pryor (202) 461–5870 or FAX (202) 273–9387.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104–13; 44 U.S.C. 3501–3521), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VHA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VHA’s

functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VHA’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

**Titles**

a. VA Research Consent Form (Cases), VA Form 10–2109a.

b. VA Research Consent Form (Control), VA Form 10–2109b.

c. Survey of Chronic Gastrointestinal Illness in Persian Gulf Veterans, VA Form 10–21092c.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900–0742.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* Approximately 25 percent military troops who were deployed in the first Persian Gulf War returned with persistent gastrointestinal symptoms, typical of diarrhea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome. The data collected from the survey will assist VA in determining whether chronic gastrointestinal illness in Persian Gulf Veterans was caused by the presence of bacteria in the intestines and whether eradication of these bacteria reduces symptoms of chronic diarrhea.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden**

a. VA Research Consent Form (Cases), VA Form 10–2109a—41 hours.

b. VA Research Consent Form (Control), VA Form 10–2109b—31 hours.

c. Survey of Chronic Gastrointestinal Illness in Persian Gulf Veterans, VA Form 10–21092c—3,000 hours.

**Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent**

a. VA Research Consent Form (Cases), VA Form 10–2109a—15 minutes.

b. VA Research Consent Form (Control), VA Form 10–2109b—10 minutes.

c. Survey of Chronic Gastrointestinal Illness in Persian Gulf Veterans, VA Form 10–21092c—45 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* One time.

**Estimated Number of Respondents**

a. VA Research Consent Form (Cases), VA Form 10–2109a—165.

b. VA Research Consent Form (Control), VA Form 10–2109b—189.

c. Survey of Chronic Gastrointestinal Illness in Persian Gulf Veterans, VA Form 10–21092c—4,000.

By direction of the Secretary.

**William F. Russo,**

*Deputy Director, Office of Regulations Policy and Management, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2012–25873 Filed 10–19–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320–01–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Joint Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development and Clinical Science Research and Development Services Scientific Merit Review Board, Notice of Meetings**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Public Law

92–463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that the panels of the Joint Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development and Clinical Science Research and Development Services Scientific Merit Review Board will meet from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the dates indicated below:

Panel	Date(s)	Location
Endocrinology-B	November 15, 2012	*VA Central Office.
Hematology	November 16, 2012	*VA Central Office.
Infectious Diseases-B	November 16, 2012	Sheraton Crystal City Hotel.
Mental Health and Behavioral Sciences-B	November 16, 2012	*VA Central Office.
Neurobiology-A	November 16, 2012	*VA Central Office.
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	November 19, 2012	Sheraton Crystal City Hotel.
Mental Health and Behavioral Sciences-A	November 20, 2012	Sheraton Crystal City Hotel.
Aging and Clinical Geriatrics	November 28, 2012	*VA Central Office.
Immunology-A	November 28, 2012	Sheraton Crystal City Hotel.
Gastroenterology	November 29, 2012	Sheraton Crystal City Hotel.
Clinical Trials	November 29–30, 2012	*VA Central Office.
Pulmonary Medicine	November 29–30, 2012	Sheraton Crystal City Hotel.
Infectious Diseases-A	December 4, 2012	*VA Central Office.
Epidemiology	December 6, 2012	*VA Central Office.
Nephrology	December 6, 2012	Sheraton Crystal City Hotel.
Neurobiology-C	December 6–7, 2012	Sheraton Crystal City Hotel.
Oncology-A	December 6–7, 2012	American Association of Airport Executives.
Neurobiology-E	December 7, 2012	*VA Central Office.
Cardiovascular Studies	December 10, 2012	Sheraton Crystal City Hotel.
Endocrinology-A	December 10–11, 2012	Sheraton Crystal City Hotel.
Surgery	December 11, 2012	Sheraton Crystal City Hotel.
Clinical Application of Genetics	December 12, 2012	*VA Central Office.
Neurobiology-D	December 13, 2012	Sheraton Crystal City Hotel.
Eligibility	January 18, 2013	Sheraton Crystal City Hotel.

The addresses of the meeting sites are:  
 American Association of Airport Executives, 601 Madison Street, Alexandria, VA.  
 Sheraton Crystal City, 1800 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia.  
 VA Central Office, 131 M Street NE., Washington, DC.  
 \*Teleconference.

The purpose of the Board is to provide advice on the scientific quality, budget, safety and mission relevance of investigator-initiated research proposals submitted for VA merit review consideration. Proposals submitted for review by the Board involve a wide range of medical specialties within the general areas of biomedical, behavioral and clinical science research.

The panel meetings will be open to the public for approximately one-half hour at the start of each meeting to discuss the general status of the program. The remaining portion of each panel meeting will be closed to the public for the review, discussion, and evaluation of initial and renewal research proposals.

The closed portion of each meeting involves discussion, examination, reference to staff and consultant critiques of research proposals. During this portion of each meeting, discussions will deal with scientific merit of each proposal and qualifications of personnel conducting the studies, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, as well as research information, the premature disclosure of which could significantly frustrate implementation of proposed agency action regarding such research proposals. As provided by subsection 10(d) of Public Law 92–463, as amended, closing portions of these

panel meetings is in accordance with 5 U.S.C., 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B).

Those who plan to attend the general session or would like to obtain a copy of minutes of the panel meetings and rosters of the members of the panels should contact LeRoy G. Frey, Ph.D., Chief, Program Review (10P9B), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420, or call (202) 443–5674 or by email at [Leroy.frey@va.gov](mailto:Leroy.frey@va.gov).

By Direction of the Secretary.

Dated: October 16, 2012.

**Vivian Drake,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2012–25807 Filed 10–19–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**