

Resources and Housing Branch,  
Attention: Allison Eydt (OMB #0937–  
0166, New Executive Office Building,  
Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: May 27, 2003.

**John P. Burke, III,**

*Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance  
Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department  
of Health and Human Services.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[60Day–03–72]

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

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects. To request more information on the proposed projects or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, call the CDC Reports Clearance Officer on (404) 498–1210.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Send comments to Anne O'Connor, CDC Assistant Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road, MS–D24, Atlanta, GA 30333. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

#### Proposed Project

Work-related assaults treated in hospital emergency departments (0920–0575)—Extension—The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention (CDC). Workplace violence, both fatal and non fatal, is recognized as an important occupational safety and health issue. Various data systems have provided fairly detailed information on fatal workplace violence, but much less is known about the circumstances and risk factors for non-fatal workplace violence. A number of strategies have been suggested for reducing the incidence and severity of workplace violence in various settings (e.g., taxicabs, health care, law enforcement, social services), but again, little empirical knowledge exists about what has been implemented and what impact such strategies may have. The report, *Workplace Violence: A Report to the Nation*, published by the University of Iowa based on recommendations from a workshop of experts states, “\* \* \* research focused on a much broader understanding of the scope and impact of workplace violence is urgently needed to reduce the human and financial burden of this significant public health problem.” In 2000, there were 677 workplace homicides in the U.S. From 1993–1999, there were an estimated 1.7 million nonfatal victimizations “while at work or on duty” every year, accounting for 18 percent of all violent crime during the seven-year period. In December 2001, Congress directed NIOSH to “\* \* \* develop an intramural and extramural prevention research program that will target all aspects of workplace violence \* \* \*”

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) maintains a database of injuries treated in a nationally-representative sample of U.S. hospital emergency departments (ED) called the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS). Data routinely collected through NEISS include a brief narrative description of the injury event as well as basic demographic information, intent and mechanism of injury, work-relatedness, principal diagnosis, part of body affected, location where the injury occurred, involvement of consumer products, and disposition at ED discharge. For assaults, summary data are also being collected on the relationship of the perpetrator to the injured person and the context (e.g., altercation, robbery, sexual assault, etc.). For work-related cases, occupation and industry information is collected. The data system does not, however, include any information on issues such as the specific workplace circumstances and

risk factors for workplace violence, security measures in place in the workplace and whether they were utilized/worked appropriately, training in workplace violence risk factors and prevention strategies, previous incidents of workplace violence, return to work after assault, and other specific workplace violence information.

For the last ten years, NIOSH has been collaborating with CPSC to collect surveillance data on work-related injuries treated in the NEISS EDs. In addition, NIOSH has utilized the capacity of NEISS to incorporate follow-back surveys. Follow-back surveys allow collection of first-hand, detailed knowledge that does not exist in administrative or other records. CPSC routinely uses this mechanism to collect information on various types of injuries (e.g., fireworks-related injuries, injuries to children in baby walkers, etc.). NIOSH has used this mechanism to collect information on the circumstances of injury, training, protective equipment (if appropriate), and other issues important to more fully understanding the risk factors for work-related injuries and to make appropriate recommendations for preventing other such injuries in the future.

The current proposed study will consist of a telephone interview survey of workers treated in NEISS hospital emergency departments for injuries sustained during a work-related assault over a one-year period. CPSC will hire a contractor to conduct the actual telephone interviews. NIOSH will review potential cases to identify those cases that should be forwarded to the contractor for interview. The survey includes an extended narrative description of the injury incident as well as items regarding general workplace organization; personal characteristics of the worker; work tasks at the time of the assault; training on workplace violence risk factors and prevention strategies; security measures in place and how they impacted the outcome of the incident; medical care received for injuries; time away from work; and return to work after the assault. This study will provide critical information for understanding the nature and impact of nonfatal assault among U.S. workers. In combination with data collected from other sources, this information will ultimately contribute to the prevention of violence in the workplace. The only cost to respondents is their time in participating in the survey.

Survey	Number of respondents	Number of responses/ respondent	Average burden/ response (hours)	Total burden (hours)
Work-related assaults treated in hospital emergency departments .....	1,600	1	20/60	533
Total .....	.....	.....	.....	533

Dated: May 29, 2003.

**Thomas A. Bartenfeld,**

*Acting Associate Director for Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

**The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Announces the Following Meeting**

*Name:* Continue Conceptual Discussions for Escape Respirator Standards Development Efforts Used for Respiratory Protection Against Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Agents, and Provide an Update on the Quality Assurance/Administrative Module.

*Date and Time:* June 25, 2003; 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

*Place:* Hilton Garden Inn Pittsburgh/Southpointe, 1000 Corporate Drive, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania.

*Status:* This meeting is hosted by NIOSH and will be open to the public, limited only by the space available. The meeting room will accommodate approximately 175 people. Interested parties should make hotel reservations directly with the Hilton Garden Inn Pittsburgh/Southpointe (724/743-5000/1-800-HILTON) before the cut-off date of June 10, 2003. A group rate of \$55 per night has been negotiated for meeting guests. The NIOSH/NPPTL Public Meeting must be referenced to receive this special rate. Interested parties should confirm their attendance to this meeting by completing a registration form and forwarding it by e-mail ([confserv@netl.doe.gov](mailto:confserv@netl.doe.gov)) or fax (304-285-4459) to the Event Management Office. A registration form may be obtained from the NIOSH Homepage ([www.cdc.gov/niosh](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh)) by selecting Conferences and then the event.

An opportunity to make presentations regarding the conceptual discussions of standards and testing processes for

escape respirator standards suitable for respiratory protection against CBRN Agents will be given. Requests to make such presentations at the public meeting should be mailed to the NIOSH Docket Officer, Robert A. Taft Laboratories, M/S C34, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226, Telephone 513-533-8303, Fax 513-533-8285, E-mail [niocindocket@cdc.gov](mailto:niocindocket@cdc.gov). All requests to present on the CBRN topics should contain the name, address, telephone number, relevant business affiliations of the presenter, a brief summary of the presentation, and the approximate time requested for the presentation. Oral presentations should be limited to 15 minutes. Participants will be given the opportunity to comment on the Quality Assurance/Administrative module.

After reviewing the requests for presentations, NIOSH will notify each presenter of the approximate time that their presentation is scheduled to begin. If a participant is not present when their presentation is scheduled to begin, the remaining participants will be heard in order. At the conclusion of the meeting, an attempt will be made to allow presentations by any scheduled participants who missed their assigned times. Attendees who wish to speak but did not submit a request for the opportunity to make a presentation may be given this opportunity at the conclusion of the meeting, at the discretion of the presiding officer.

Comments on the topics presented in this notice and at the meeting should be mailed to the NIOSH Docket Office, Robert A. Taft Laboratories, M/S C34, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226, Telephone 513-533-8303, Fax 513/533-8285. Comments may also be submitted by e-mail to [niocindocket@cdc.gov](mailto:niocindocket@cdc.gov). E-mail attachments should be formatted as WordPerfect 6/7/8/9 or Microsoft Word. Comments should be submitted to NIOSH no later than July 25, 2003, and should reference docket number, NIOSH-002, in the subject heading if they pertain to the CBRN topics, or reference docket number, NIOSH-001, in the subject heading if they pertain to the Quality Assurance/Administrative Module.

*Purpose:* NIOSH will continue conceptual discussions of standards and

testing processes for escape respirator standards suitable for respiratory protection against CBRN Agents. In addition, an update on the development of the Quality Assurance/Administrative module will be presented.

NIOSH, along with the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command (SBCCOM) and the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST), will present information to attendees concerning the concept development for the Escape Respirator CBRN standard. Participants will be given an opportunity to ask questions on these topics and to present individual comments for consideration. Interested participants may obtain the latest copy of the Escape Respirator CBRN concept paper, as well as earlier versions of the concept papers used during the standard development effort, from the NIOSH contact identified below, or from the NIOSH National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory Web site, address: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl>. The June 15, 2003, concept paper will be used as the basis for discussion at the public meeting, as well as forming the basis for the new Escape Respirator CBRN statement of standard.

Recent acts of terrorism have created an urgent awareness of domestic security and preparedness issues. Municipal, states, and federal responder groups, particularly those in locations considered potential targets, have been developing and modifying response and consequence management plans. Since the World Trade Center and anthrax incidents, most emergency response agencies have operated with a heightened appreciation of the potential scope and sustained resources requirements for coping with such events. The federal Interagency Board for Equipment Standardization and Interoperability (IAB) has worked to identify personal protective equipment that is already available on the market for responders' use. The IAB has identified the development of standards or guidelines for respiratory protection equipment as a top priority. NIOSH, NIST, National Fire Protection Association, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration have