Identifying Independent Peer Reviewers

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and
Designated Federal Official
Scientific/Technical Advisory Committee
World Trade Center Health Program
(F) INDEPENDENT PEER REVIEWS —

Prior to issuing a final rule to add a health condition to the list in paragraph (3), the WTC Program Administrator shall provide for an independent peer review of the scientific and technical evidence that would be the basis for issuing such final rule.

(G) ADDITIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.—

(ii) IDENTIFICATION OF INDIVIDUALS CONDUCTING INDEPENDENT PEER REVIEWS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Reauthorization Act and not less than every 2 years thereafter, the WTC Program Administrator shall seek recommendations from the Advisory Committee regarding the identification of individuals to conduct the independent peer reviews under subparagraph (F).
Identifying Independent Peer Reviewers

A. Public Solicitation

STAC Recommendation 5. The Administrator should develop and implement a process to solicit from the public recommendations of scientific experts to perform peer review.

• Administrator Response. The Administrator agrees and will include a Federal Register notice to solicit public input for consideration in the process of identifying potential peer reviewers for the WTC Health Program.

Identifying Independent Peer Reviewers

A. Public Solicitation

**STAC Recommendation 6.a.** A pool of peer reviewers should be formed by NIOSH that can be drawn upon when a peer review is required. This could be done by an open solicitation by which persons could be nominated, a process that could be repeated periodically.

- **Administrator Response.** The Administrator agrees and will include a Federal Register notice to solicit public input for consideration in the process of identifying potential peer reviewers for the WTC Health Program.

- **Reference to P&P.** See Section VI.B. Independent Peer Review.
Identifying Independent Peer Reviewers

A. Public Solicitation

VI. B. Independent Peer Review

1. Selection of Peer Reviewers

a. At least every two years, the Administrator will develop a pool of potential peer reviewers with medical and/or scientific expertise by requesting recommendations from the WTC Health Program STAC regarding the identification of potential independent peer reviewers, and by publishing a Federal Register notice soliciting nominees for potential peer reviewers for the Program.
There is no cost to respondents other than the time to participate. Authorizing legislation comes from Section 301 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241).

### ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

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Leroy A. Richardson, Chief, Information Collection Review Office, Office of Scientific Integrity, Office of the Associate Director for Science, Office of the Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Docket Number NIOSH–294]

World Trade Center Health Program; Request for Nominations of Scientific Peer Reviewers of Proposed Additions to the List of WTC-Related Health Conditions

### DATES:
Nominations must be submitted (postmarked or electronically received) by February 1, 2019.

### ADDRESSES:
You may submit a nomination identified by NIOSH Docket 294, by any of the following methods:
- Electronic nominations, including attachments to nioshdocket@cdc.gov.
- Regular, Express, or Overnight Mail: Written nominations may be submitted.

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Gastrointestinal, Endocrine, Urinary, Immune, Lymphatic, Muscular, Nervous, Reproductive, Respiratory, Skeletal) Publication list
- Other materials to support the nominee's ability to perform scientific peer review
- For third-party nominations, affirmation from the nominee that they are aware of and agree to the nomination
- A Curriculum vitae that includes all of the above information may alternatively be submitted.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Reauthorization Act in section 3312(a)(6)(F) requires the Administrator to provide for an independent peer review of the scientific and technical evidence that would be the basis for issuing a final rule to add a health
Administrator’s Charge

• “I invite the Committee to recommend specific individuals who may be expert in various types of health conditions, or make a recommendation about procedures that the Program should use to identify peer reviewers.”
Area of Competency

- Medical,
- Epidemiology,
- Exposure assessment,
- Industrial hygiene
Area of Specialty

- Cardiovascular,
- Integumentary,
- Gastrointestinal,
- Endocrine,
- Urinary,
- Immune,
- Lymphatic,
- Muscular,
- Nervous,
- Reproductive,
- Respiratory,
- Skeletal
FRN: Additional info

• The Administrator will select peer reviewers for any proposed rule by matching the nature of the proposed addition to the List and the nominee’s background and expertise, as well as any potential conflict of interest. In selecting peer reviewers, the WTC Program Administrator will consider individuals nominated in response to this Federal Register notice, as well as other qualified individuals.