

HPMS E-Mail

Date: December 02, 2016

Subject: Personnel Changes in the Center for Medicare

As many Medicare Advantage Organizations and Part D sponsors are aware, Arrah Tabe-Bedward, formerly the Director of the Medicare Enrollment and Appeals Group (MEAG) in the Center for Medicare (CM), has taken a position as Deputy Director of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI). We are happy to announce that Jerry Mulcahy has agreed to become the Director of MEAG effective November 27, 2016. Jerry has been serving as the Director of the Medicare C & D Oversight and Enforcement Group (MOEG) since 2011. Jerry joined CMS in 2002 and has worked on a variety of high profile health plan initiatives including deeming, marketing, and compliance oversight.

We are also pleased to announce that Mike Crochunis will continue to serve as the Deputy Group Director of the MEAG. We thank Mike for his willingness to step up and serve as acting group director for the past 4 months, and we feel fortunate that he will continue to provide leadership to MEAG's important work. Mike has played a critical role in collaborating with other leaders within CMS and the Department to design and implement initiatives to reduce the large backlog of administrative law judge appeals. Mike has been with CMS for over 19 years.

We are also pleased to announce that Vikki Ahern will be the permanent Director of MOEG and has become a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES). Vikki most recently served as the Deputy Director of MOEG, after spending 10 years in the Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group. She also recently completed the Department of Health and Human Services SES Candidate Development Program. Vikki has played a key role in a variety of areas of Part D operations and analysis, including Medication Therapy Management, Patient Safety, Part D Reporting Requirements, Reducing the Overutilization of Opioids, and the Complaint Tracking Module.

We're also glad to announce that Judy Geisler will serve as the Deputy Group Director of the MOEG. Judy most recently served as the Acting Deputy Director of the Medicare Enrollment and Appeals Group. Prior to that, she served in the Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group (MDBG). Her experience in MDBG and MEAG, along with her ability to collaborate with other components and agencies, will be extremely beneficial to MOEG. Judy has been with CMS for 12 years and is a licensed pharmacist.

Please join us in wishing Arrah, Jerry, Vikki, and Judy good luck in their new roles.