AHFSA Members,

I received a phone call from Dr Kate Goodrich from CMS this afternoon. She wanted to inform AHFSA of a reorganization at CMS that is being announced today. They're trying to establish better alignment between central office and the Regional Offices they have created 8 groups within CCSQ.

The Survey Operations Group (SOG) has been established to align the functions and not have a separation between policy decision-making and the Regional Offices. Sandra Pace is the Acting Director of this new Division. She is still planning to retire possibly in March. The director position is currently posted. It is a senior executive service position and CMS hopes to have Sandra's  replacement in place before she retires.

In quick summary:

Sandra is over SOG. The regional office staff who conduct survey and certification activities all report to her.

David is still over QSOG. Karen Tritz is over a new Division titled Division of Acute Care and Continuing Providers.  This combines her current division of acute care services with the previous Division of DCCP. Jim Cowher is the branch chief for continuing care providers and Sarah Bryce Payne is the branch chief for acute care provider.

CLIA is now part of QSOG. Karen Dyer is still in charge and the Regional Office CLIA staff have not changed. They all just fall under QSOG.

The link to the Federal Register is below:

[https://s3.amazonaws.com/public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2019-25426.pdf](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https%3A/s3.amazonaws.com/public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2019-25426.pdf__;!qECv3N4d7FPHrGE!YUm4rGKMPbRya9LmJHfqW5MdYage46aI4mvqeRq-F-Kh3ZowgQ8ueA8a_HeX_xqYu8ThwytK$)

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