Barbara Edwards is the Director of the Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group in the Center for Medicaid, CHIP, and Survey & Certification at CMS. Ms. Edwards is a nationally recognized expert in Medicaid policy including managed care, cost containment, and long-term care. She served for eight years as the Ohio State Medicaid Director, where she led the implementation of Ohio's comprehensive strategy to promote access to home and community-based long-term services and supports.

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The Center for Medicaid, CHIP, and Survey & Certification is CMS' focal point for the formulation, implementation and evaluation of national program policies and operations relating to Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Survey & Certification, and the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act (CLIA). The Center evaluates and assists State operations, develops and advances policy changes, assists in fraud prevention, and manages survey, certification, and enforcement programs for providers and suppliers. In addition, in conjunction with the Office of External Affairs and Beneficiary Services, the Center oversees CMS interactions and collaboration, relating to Medicaid and CHIP, with beneficiaries, States and key stakeholders (e.g., health care providers, other Federal government entities, local governments), and communication and dissemination of policies, guidance and materials to drive best practices for beneficiaries in States and throughout the health care industry.