

FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) One Health Symposium
"Paws, Claws, Hooves, Fins, and Feet: Advancements through a One Health Approach"

Tracey Forfa, JD, MDiv

Tracey Forfa, JD, MDiv, was appointed the Director for FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) in February 2023. The Center regulates animal food, drugs, and devices, including those intended for pets as well as the animals that produce the meat, milk, and eggs that we eat.

Ms. Forfa has been with CVM since 2002 and was appointed the Deputy Center Director in 2008. She previously served as Acting Director in 2016, and again in early 2023 prior to her permanent appointment. She was also the Acting Ombudsman for CVM from 2019-2022. Prior to joining CVM, Ms. Forfa helped to support FDA's mission in other capacities. In 1996, she joined the Office of the Chief Mediator and Ombudsman, working on product jurisdiction and external dispute resolution. She joined the agency in 1993 as a member of the regulations and policy staff at the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER) working on issues such as human tissue and blood banking.

Ms. Forfa earned a Bachelor of Arts from the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio, a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Baltimore in Maryland, and a Master of Divinity degree from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington D.C. She has also completed FDA's Executive Education Program in Regulatory Policy through the University of Maryland.

Tristan Colonius, DVM, MPA

Tristan Colonius, DVM, MPA, was appointed as the FDA's first Chief Veterinary Officer in May 2023, and he also serves as CVM's Deputy Director for Science Policy.

Dr. Colonius has had a distinguished career within FDA. Before his appointment to CVM, he served in the Immediate Office of the Commissioner as the Deputy Chief of Staff where he was instrumental in the redesign of FDA's Human Foods Program. Prior to his position on Commissioner's team, he served as the Legislative Director for Foods and Veterinary Medicine in the Office of Legislation, where he handled issues as the Center's bridge to congressional legislators. Before coming to FDA, he was a U.S. Senate staffer and legislative advisor for agriculture and consumer safety, placed initially in Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's office through the American Association for the Advancement of Science Congressional Fellowship Program, and subsequently in Senator Dianne Feinstein's office as permanent staff. Dr. Colonius has also worked as a Public Health Veterinarian with USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service.

Dr. Colonius earned his Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees from Louisiana State University and his Master of Public Administration degree from University of Illinois – Springfield. He is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine.

Christopher Loss, DVM

Christopher Loss, DVM, serves as Branch Chief in the Division of Pharmacovigilance and Surveillance, Office of Surveillance and Compliance at CVM. In this role he leads a group of veterinarians that evaluate post-market adverse drug event reports; promotion, advertising, and labeling for approved animal drugs; and post-market adverse events for some intentional genomic alterations in animals.

Dr. Loss received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Virginia Tech and his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Oklahoma State University. Prior to joining the FDA, he practiced small animal medicine in Arlington, VA, where he continues to practice part-time. He began his FDA career as a reviewer in the Division of Companion Animal Drugs in the Office of New Animal Drug Evaluation (ONADE) and became a Senior Regulatory Review Scientist, specializing in the review of small animal oncology drugs and the conditional approval process. He led the initiative to create CVM Guidance for Industry #237 Oncology Drugs for Companion Animals and CVM Guidance for Industry #261 Eligibility Criteria for Expanded Conditional Approval of New Animal Drugs.

David Edwards, MS, PhD

David Edwards, MS, PhD, is the Director for the Division of Animal Food Ingredients within the Office of Surveillance and Compliance at CVM. The Division regulates premarket ingredient approvals.

Prior to joining CVM, Dr. Edwards was the Director of Animal Biotechnology at the Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO) in Washington, D.C. BIO is the world's largest biotechnology trade association. He has also worked on the majority professional staff of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Dr. Edwards grew up in Iowa and raised pigs, sheep, and specialty crops. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in genetics and agricultural biochemistry from Iowa State University and Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in animal breeding and genetics at Michigan State University. He is also a graduate of the U.S. Federal Executive Institute.

Dorothy Bailey, DVM

Dorothy Bailey, DVM, earned her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine in 2003. After veterinary school, she completed an equine medicine and surgery internship at Pilchuck Veterinary Hospital in Snohomish, WA. Upon completion of her internship, she took a break from veterinary medicine to complete a thru-hike of the Appalachian Trail. She then worked briefly as a laboratory animal veterinarian at a contract research organization before joining CVM in 2006.

Dr. Bailey started her CVM career as a veterinary reviewer on the Antimicrobial Drugs Team, Division of Food Animals Drugs in ONADE before moving to the Office of Minor Use and Minor Species Animal Drug Development (OMUMS) in 2008. She managed the indexing program until January of 2022 when she began serving as Acting Director. Dr. Bailey was selected to serve as the Director of OMUMS in November of 2023.

Jan Linkenhoker, DVM, MSPH, DAACLAM, CertAqV CDR, USPHS

Jan Linkenhoker, DVM, MSPH, DAACLAM, CDR, USPHS, earned a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Colorado State University in 2007, a Master of Science degree in Public Health from Tulane University in 2002, and Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry and molecular biology from Centre College in Kentucky in 2001. After veterinary school, she was commissioned as an officer in the United States Public Health Service and completed a laboratory animal medicine residency at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). After obtaining

board certification in laboratory animal medicine, she continued to work at the NIH with the Division of Veterinary Resources and the National Human Genome Research Institute. She provided care to several animal species, including monkeys, pigs, dogs, zebrafish, and rodents.

In 2018, CDR Linkenhoker joined CVM's Division of Animal Bioengineering and Cellular Therapies. At CVM, she evaluates the safety and effectiveness of animal cells, tissues, and cell- and tissue-based products. She also evaluates intentional genomic alterations in animals that may serve as models of human disease or sources for xenotransplantation and biopharmaceutical products.

Carlo Mercado, PhD

Carlo Mercado, PhD, is the Acting Branch Chief for the Veterinary Research Branch in the Division of Applied Veterinary Research, Office of Applied Science (OAS) at CVM. He regularly serves as a Biologist Reviewer in CVM's Division of Animal Bioengineering and Cellular Therapies and co-leads the FDA Omics One Health Working Group.

As a reviewer, Dr. Mercado evaluates submissions that support the development of intentional genomic alterations in animals, which are used in a variety of different applications. After receiving a Bachelor of Science in Forensic Chemistry-DNA Analysis from Towson University, he completed his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Human Genetics and Genomic Medicine from the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

Tina Crosby, BS, MS

Tina Crosby is a Biologist and the Lab Coordinator for the Division of Applied Veterinary Research in the Office of Applied Science (OAS) at the Center for Veterinary Medicine. She has an Associate's degree in Aquaculture, a Bachelor's degree in Biology, and a Master's degree in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences. She started at OAS in 2010 as an Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education Fellow, then transitioned to a permanent position in 2014. In 2017, Ms. Crosby received the FDA Scientific Achievement Award for Outstanding Support Scientist and in 2022, she accepted her current position as Biologist/Lab Coordinator. At CVM, she conducts research investigating drug effects and antibiotic effectiveness in fish. She also provides fish tissues to FDA chemists for development of chemical detection methods. In her role as Lab Coordinator, Ms. Crosby manages several projects to facilitate the maintenance of laboratory spaces as well as purchasing contracts for the Division.

Charlin Casiano, BSAS, MSM

Charlin Casiano is a Biologist in the Division of Generic Animal Drugs in CVM's Office of New Animal Drug Evaluation. Ms. Casiano began her career in CVM in 2018, as a Staff Fellow Animal Scientist after a decade managing and supervising within the Primary Breeders Poultry Research Industry. In her current role as a Reviewer, she evaluates generic labeling reviews, collaborates with a diverse group of experts through the generic application process, schedules and hosts meetings, and communicates with CVM stakeholders around the globe. Ms. Casiano has been an advocate for One Health since 2019 as a member of CVM's One Health Committee and has collaborated on various One Health-related projects within and outside CVM. She received her Master of Science in Project Management from Purdue University Global and her Bachelor of Science in Animal Science from the University of Puerto Rico.