



## CMS CLIA Update



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*Division of Clinical Laboratory  
Improvement and Quality  
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# CMS DCLIQ REORGANIZATION

- DCLIQ Reorganization--what has changed:
- 2 Policy Branches and 3 Operations Branches have been restructured
- New structure consists of 5 branches along the primary product lines:
  - Survey Branch
  - Enforcement Branch
  - Logistics Branch
  - Regulations and Clearance Branch
  - State Oversight Branch



# CMS DCLIQ REORGANIZATION

## Division of Clinical Laboratory Improvement and Quality (FCGGB)

1 Director – Gregg Brandush

Elyse Lessner  
Scott Stacy  
Karen Sutterer  
Penny Keller  
Cheryl Dobbe

DCLIQ Survey Branch  
(FCGGBA)

Branch Manager – Daniel  
Hesselgesser

DCLIQ Enforcement  
Branch (FCGGBB)

Branch Manager – Latoya  
Laing

Logistics Branch (FCGGBD)

Branch Manager – Karen  
Fuller

Regulations and  
Clearance Branch  
(FCGGBD)

Branch Manager –  
Angelique Daubert

State Oversight Branch  
(FCGGBE)

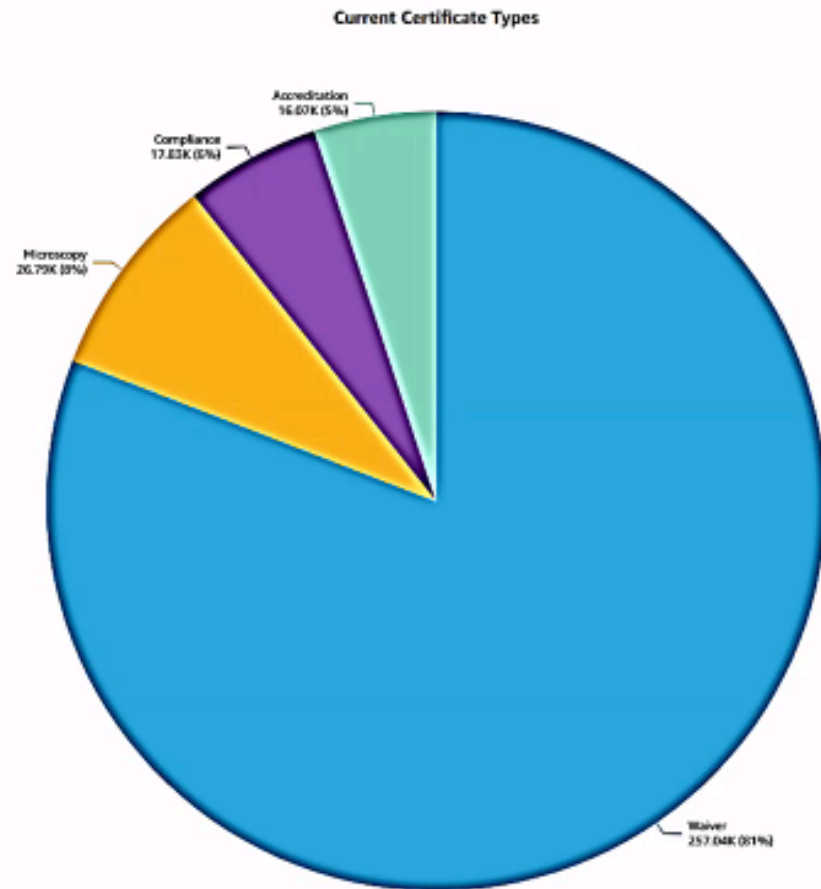
Branch Manager –  
Raelene Perfetto

## How many labs are there?

Approximate Number—Laboratories	317,740
Exempt States (New York and Washington)	14,508
Total Non-Exempt	303,232
CoC	17,833
CoW	257,043
CoA	16,073
PPM	26,791

Source: CMS database—February 2024

# Visual Breakdown of Certificate Types



# CMS CLIA goals for 2023

- Improved processes
  - Use of data to identify outliers in terms of survey findings, time spent on survey, team size
  - Adherence to enforcement timelines
  - Enhanced state oversight activities
- Modernizing CLIA
  - PT Rule implementation
  - Electronic Certificates
- Assessing the use of enforcement discretion and flexibilities during the PHE:
  - Remote review of pathology slides/data
  - Expedited review of CLIA applications
  - Contiguous site flexibilities
  - University non-CLIA COVID testing
  - COW testing authorization as soon as CLIA application is filed
  - COVID test result reporting
- Continuing our stakeholder engagement efforts



## Additional CMS accomplishments FY23

- Electronic Certificates and QCOR links
- CDC Data Exchange
- Fee rule
- RFI (*Histopathology, Cytology, and Clinical Cytogenetics Regulations*)
- Budget process
- Backlog plan
- Dashboards



# Certificate of Compliance survey findings

Top Ten Conditions Nationwide (10/1/19 to 9/30/21):

Tag Number	Count	Tag Identification
2016	1,263	Condition: Successful PT participation
6000	839	Condition: Lab Director qualifications and responsibilities for moderate complexity testing at 493.1405 and 493.1407.
6076	452	Condition: Lab Director qualifications and responsibilities for high complexity testing at 493.1443 and 493.1445.
5400	380	Condition: Analytic Systems—Must meet requirements at 493.1251-1289.
2000	298	Condition: PT enrollment and testing of samples
6033	257	Condition: Technical Consultant qualifications and responsibilities for moderate complexity testing at 493.1411 and 493.1413.
6063	230	Condition: Testing personnel qualifications and responsibilities for moderate complexity testing at 493.1423 and 493.1425.
6168	204	Condition: Labs performing high complexity testing; testing personnel
3000	169	Condition: Facility Administration—must meet 493.1101-1105.
6108	103	Condition: Technical Supervisor qualifications and responsibilities for high complexity testing at 493.1449 and 493.1451.



# CMS CLIA goals for 2024

<b>Year One Goals</b>	<b>Year Three Goals</b>	<b>Year Five Goals</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 50% of CLIA certificates will be electronic and available on-line</li><li>• Issue Interpretive Guidance on the new Fee, histocompatibility, Personnel and Alternative Sanction rule.</li><li>• Initiate action plan to address data that demonstrates survey inconsistencies related to team size, time spent on survey, citation rates.</li><li>• Track enforcement actions to ensure consistency</li><li>• Make CLIA Certificate of Compliance survey findings available of QCOR</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implement Lab Director University</li><li>• Revise enforcement letters for plain language and readability</li><li>• Assess state budget allocations for consistency and fairness</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop other educational resources such as Technical Supervisor University, Technical Consultant University, etc.</li><li>• Develop standardized survey process that is objective, consistent and computer assisted.</li></ul>

# Additional questions?

Thank you!

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