

**From:** [Marks, Peter](#)  
**To:** [CBER Subscribers](#)  
**Subject:** Transition Announcement  
**Date:** Monday, September 27, 2021 9:47:00 AM

---

Dear CBER Colleagues,

First, thanks to each one of you for your continued and untiring support of the public health during the current COVID-19 pandemic. The work of the Center continues to be critical for the health of our nation. It has also become clear that the unprecedented workload that the Center, and in particular, the Office of Vaccines Research and Review, has been handling throughout the pandemic is continuing to grow, rather than subsiding.

As was shared previously at an All-Hands Meeting, Marion has announced her plans to retire at the end of October. Additionally, as you may be aware, Phil has announced his plans to retire in November. Under Marion and Phil's leadership the Office of Vaccine Research and Review has made monumental contributions to our fight against COVID-19, and we are very grateful for their efforts.

It is important to allow both Marion and Phil to have time to transition before their departure after so many years with our Center. Therefore, I want to let you know that beginning today, September 27, I will be assuming responsibilities as the Acting Office Director, and Marion will transition oversight and management of the activities of the office to me. This will allow Marion and Phil time to transfer their activities and take care of close-out activities prior to departing and help to assure a smooth transition.

During the next days and weeks, I will be working very closely with the OVRR team to ensure that the important public health work of the organization continues to move forward. I want to thank everyone in the Center for their continued dedication, work, and support.

Best Regards,  
Peter

---

Peter Marks, MD, PhD  
Director  
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research  
U.S. Food and Drug Administration