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Toni Piazza-Hepp is Associate Director for Regulatory Affairs in the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER), Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology (OSE). She joined the FDA in 1991 as a postmarket safety evaluator and has held a variety of other regulatory and management positions in CDER's postmarket safety office

since that time. Dr. Piazza-Hepp has been involved in many aspects of pharmacovigilance, risk management and risk communication. She has also been actively involved in the development of safety labeling and risk management guidances, postmarketing adverse event reporting regulations and guidances, and the consumer medication information guidance.

Dr. Piazza-Hepp's MedDRA involvement began in late 1994 during the initial development phase of MedDRA. She has remained very active in the continued development of MedDRA internationally and has been an FDA representative on the ICH "Points to Consider" Working Group since 2000. At the FDA, Dr. Piazza-Hepp has also played a lead role in the implementation and optimal use of MedDRA.

After graduation from University of the Pacific School of Pharmacy in Stockton, California, Dr. Piazza-Hepp completed a clinical pharmacy residency in Buffalo, New York. She then practiced clinical pharmacy and pharmacy management at the Washington Hospital Center in Washington D.C. for nine years prior to joining the FDA in 1991.