

Health Information Compliance Alert

Industry Notes: FDA Gets New Commissioner

What's old is new again - or at least that's the case in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). With concerns about the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) stretching on and future vaccination rollouts in the works, the feds opted to hire back a seasoned FDA veteran to head the agency again.



Update: Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary **Xavier Becerra** tapped former **Obama** Administration commissioner **Robert M. Califf, MD**, to come back as FDA chief. "Califf, a cardiologist, was confirmed with bipartisan support and had also previously served as the agency's deputy commissioner of medical products and tobacco," an HHS release said.

"The FDA is one of our nation's most critical public health agencies and having a commissioner with Dr. Califf's experience and expertise will ensure we are well positioned to combat COVID-19, the opioid crisis, and many other public health challenges," Becerra said in the release. "Dr. Califf can hit the ground running on these issues and more as a result of his previous service at the agency, and I look forward to working with him in this role."