

JOHN COCCHIARA

John V. Cocchiara is currently serving as a Special Assistant to the Consortium Administrator for Medicare Health Plans Operations at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. In his role, he serves as CMS' Lead Regional Pharmacist for the Medicare Prescription Drug (Part D) Program with involvement in other various Medicare pharmacy related initiatives. Mr. Cocchiara initially joined CMS in early 2005 as the New York Regional Pharmacist Consultant in the Division of Medicare Operations charged with assisting in the implementation of the Medicare Part D program. His contributions have been recognized by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the CMS Administrator, and the New York City Federal Executive Board.

Prior to going to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, he was practicing as a registered Pharmacist for 20 years. His areas of expertise are in the operational management of Long Term Care and Community Pharmacy. He has developed, managed, and directed operations in retail pharmacy settings as well as in institutional and non institutional Long Term Care Pharmacy settings.

Mr. Cocchiara graduated from the Arnold and Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy and was the recipient of the 2007 Daniel Stateman Distinguished Alumnus Award.