

## **CMS SPEAKER**

### **Dr. Ashby Wolfe**

#### **CMS Regional Chief Medical Officer**



Dr. Ashby Wolfe is a board-certified family physician and serves as Regional Chief Medical Officer for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) offices in Seattle and San Francisco. Dr. Wolfe has served as a CMS Regional Chief Medical Officer since 2015, focusing on the implementation of Medicare and Medicaid policy across the Western United States and the Pacific Territories (AK, ID, OR, WA, AZ, CA, HI, NV, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands). As a senior medical advisor for CMS programs in the West, she provides clinical expertise to the divisions of Medicare and Medicaid payment policy, quality improvement, survey operations, contracted health plans and serves as a principal liaison with the clinical community. Dr. Wolfe also serves as co-lead of the CMS Acute Hospital Care at Home waiver team in support of the agency's COVID-19 pandemic response.

Dr. Wolfe completed her medical degree at Stony Brook School of Medicine in New York, and her residency training at the UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, California. She also holds a Masters of Public Policy and a Masters of Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Wolfe has practiced broad-scope family medicine in academic, integrated and community clinical settings over the course of her career. She holds medical licenses in both the State of California and the State of Washington, and currently serves as a member of her local HHS medical reserve corps. She has a particular interest in improving the quality and equity of care for underserved and low-income populations. She has published on the CMS Acute Hospital Care at Home waiver experience as well as multiple articles on Medicare and Medicaid policy, and is a contributing author of the public health text *Prevention is Primary* (Jossey-Bass). In her free time, she enjoys hiking, swimming, and traveling with her husband and two children.

## **NORIDIAN STAFF**

### **Jeanna Blitz, MD, FASA, DFPM**

#### **Contractor Medical Director, Part A and Part B**



Dr. Blitz joined Noridian Healthcare Solutions in November 2023 as a Contractor Medical Director for states in Jurisdictions E and F. Her primary responsibilities include clinical coverage determinations, staff trainings on clinical matters, and collaborating with medical societies and peer groups to share information and provide education. She has been in active clinical practice for 17 years and continues to practice as an anesthesiologist in North Carolina.

## Shannon Dietz, RN

### Medical Review Clinical Nurse



Shannon joined Noridian in 2021, starting with the Strategic Medical Review Contractor (SMRC) and is currently a Senior Clinical Reviewer for Part B. Primary responsibilities include training of clinical reviewers, providing quality assurance, developing training materials and case management. Prior to joining Noridian, Shannon worked as a nurse and Assistant Director of Nursing, specializing in post-surgical care, long term care and correctional care.

## Cheryl Hanson

### Provider Outreach and Education Representative



Cheryl provides outreach and education to North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming, concentrating on Part B. Primary responsibilities include claims data analysis, educational instruction and direction to the Medicare community focusing primarily on Provider Contact Center calls, claim denials, and appeals. Cheryl uses data analysis to drive the individual education providers may need. She has been with Noridian six years, working in EDI, Provider Outreach Education and DME Reopenings. She previously worked in Release of Information at a local hospital and with a contractor for the VA. She brings nine years of Medicare understanding and serves on CMS committees and advisory groups.

## Claire Schmitt

### Provider Audit and Reimbursement Education Representative



Claire provides outreach and education to Part A Jurisdiction E (JE) and Jurisdiction F (JF) providers, focusing on Provider Audit and Reimbursement related topics. She previously worked in the Provider Contact Center helping providers with general Medicare questions and working through claim denials. Prior to Noridian, Claire worked as a middle school social studies teacher and holds a Bachelor of Arts in History with a concentration in Secondary Social Studies Education.

## Jan Ervin

### Provider Outreach and Education Representative



Jan is a Provider Outreach and Education Representative at Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC. Jan provides outreach and education to all Noridian states concentrating her attention on Part A. Primary responsibilities include offering educational instruction and direction to the Medicare community.

Prior to joining Noridian in February 2021, Jan worked at another Medicare Administrative Contractor, and brings over 13 years of Medicare understanding with her, all but one year was devoted to outreach and education. Jan serves on several CMS committees and advisory groups.

## Kathryn Grueneich

### Provider Enrollment Education Representative



Kathryn Grueneich is a Provider Outreach and Education Representative who joined Noridian Healthcare Solutions over 9 years ago. She specializes in Provider Enrollment and has extensive experience working with Part A and Part B providers and suppliers within the

Medicare domain. Kathryn provides education, guidance, and expertise on enrollment practices, regulatory matters, the Identity and Access (I&A) system and the Provider Enrollment Chain & Ownership System (PECOS). Kathryn holds a bachelor's degree in health, physical education and recreation, with emphasis in special populations and facility management from the University of North Dakota, as well as a Bachelor of Science Education Biology Composite from Valley City State University.

Prior to coming to Noridian she has enjoyed being a part owner in a family farm (where she assisted with sheep and crop management), a skilled nursing facility activity director and a 7 to 12th grade science teacher in small local communities. Kathryn enjoys assisting the provider community in understanding all the Medicare enrollment "rules" and is committed to enhancing provider success in navigating the enrollment process within the Medicare program.

## Ashley DeCoteau

### DMEPOS Education Representative



Ashley is a Provider Outreach and Education Representative at Noridian Healthcare Solutions. Ashley provides outreach and education for Noridian states concentrating her attention on DME. Primary responsibilities include offering educational instruction and direction to the Medicare community.

Prior to joining Noridian in January 2022, Ashley worked for other Medicare Administrative Contractors including CGS as a Senior Provider Outreach Analyst. She also worked as a team lead for a DMEPOS supplier and brings over 10 years of Medicare experience.

## Miriam Ocampo Funderburk

### Provider Outreach and Education Representative



Miriam provides outreach and education to the Noridian Healthcare Solutions Jurisdiction E (JE) states – Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota, concentrating her attention on Part A. Primary responsibilities include offering educational instruction and direction to the Medicare community. Prior to joining Noridian, Miriam worked as a Senior Revenue Cycle Coordinator in Patient Financial Services and brings over 25 years of Medicare and healthcare experience.

**Tammy Ewers, CPC**

**Provider Outreach and Education Representative**



Tammy has 30 years of Medicare experience encompassing both Part A and Part B programs with the past 20 years dedicated specifically to education and outreach. Her primary function is to serve as a liaison between the health care community and the Medicare Program with a focus on providing educational instruction, guidance, and compliance to all provider types. She has worked on several state and program transitions. In addition to her business and educational background she is and has been credentialed as a certified professional coder since 2001 and serves on multiple CMS, Compliance, professional committees, state agency and advisory groups. Her strong interest in congressional law makes Medicare a perfect fit. A NW native she resides in Washington State, the "other" Washington.

**Tim Morrissey**

**Provider Outreach and Education Representative II**



Originally an outsider to the Medicare space, Tim Morrissey started with Noridian's Appeals team in 2013 working claims. His opportunities led to supporting providers in the Part B Contact Center and assisting beneficiaries directly with an Asbestos-Related Disease reimbursement program before joining the Part A Education team in 2019. His areas of focus include inpatient rehabilitation, ESRD, provider-based billing, ambulance, and cost reports.

**Valerie Cavett**

**Provider Outreach and Education Representative**



Valerie provides outreach and education to the Noridian Healthcare Solutions Jurisdiction E (JE) states, concentrating her attention on Part A. Primary responsibilities include offering educational instructions and direction to the Medicare community. Prior to joining Noridian, Valerie worked as a nurse, and brings over 17 years of clinical experience with her. Valerie serves on several CMS committees and advisory groups.

**SYMPOSIUM FACILITATORS**

**Kimberly Phillips**

**Provider Outreach and Education Representative**



Kimberly is a Provider Outreach and Education Representative at Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC. Kimberly provides outreach and education for Noridian States concentrating her attention on Part A. Primary responsibilities include offering educational instruction and direction to the Medicare community.

Prior to joining Noridian in March 2023, Kimberly worked as a Medical Assistant and Medicare Eligibility Representative on Part D, and brings over 20 years of healthcare experience with her. Kimberly serves on several advisory groups.

## Lori Weber, CPC

### Provider Outreach and Education Representative II



Lori is a Part B Provider Outreach and Education (POE) representative with Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC. for the island territories of American Samoa, Guam, and Northern Mariana, along with Hawaii, California, and Oregon. With Noridian since 2006, she loves assisting and educating the provider community.

She's a local chapter CPC member of the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC), part of the CMS and Noridian Informal Medicare Professional Advisory Council (IMPAC), serves on the national Medicare Learning Network (MLN) committee, and liaison for other Medicare advisory councils. She continues to provide education via webinars, articles, individual outreach and speaking as an invited guest to state medical and specialty associations (e.g., AAPC, AHIMA, HFMA, MGMA).