

News Release

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NMMRA Names New Business Development Director

Former State Health Secretary To Lead New Business Cultivation

Albuquerque, NM—The New Mexico Medical Review Association (NMMRA) congratulates Patricia Montoya, RN, MPA, on her recent appointment as the company's director of new business and government relations. In this post she will oversee NMMRA's new business unit relative to identifying and tracking new business opportunities, leading proposal development efforts and coordinating the planning and implementation of government affairs activities.

Montoya has been with NMMRA since 2005, managing activities with physician practices regarding the adoption of electronic health record systems, including e-prescribing capabilities; the assessment and enhancement of clinical skills relating to cultural competency; and continued quality improvement activities surrounding diabetes care, screening mammography, and influenza and pneumococcal immunizations. She will continue to support physician practice quality improvement activities in addition to her new duties.

Prior to joining NMMRA, she was the cabinet secretary of the New Mexico Department of Health, leading and managing more than 3,900 employees and a budget of approximately \$450 million. Other prior positions include commissioner of the Children, Youth and Families Administration and regional director for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Dallas region; practice manager for Presbyterian Family Healthcare; and executive director for New Mexico Health Resources. She holds a master's degree in public administration/health administration from the University of New Mexico and maintains active licensure as a registered nurse.

On her new appointment Montoya says, "I'm pleased to have the opportunity to use my health care knowledge and network to form new partnerships for NMMRA in order to improve the quality of health."

"Pat embodies the characteristics essential to this position and to the organization's future," says Dan Jaco, chief executive officer. "She is enormously credible, enjoys an expansive network of colleagues, has the drive and business acumen necessary to be successful, and combines a big picture mentality with an in-depth understanding of how quality improvement happens on the front lines."

NMMRA is a not-for-profit, physician-sponsored organization that is New Mexico's federally contracted Medicare Quality Improvement Organization and Medicaid External Quality Review Organization. The organization works with health care providers, consumer and health care organizations, and state and federal agencies to improve the quality of health care in New Mexico.

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