

January 19

On behalf of Principal Deputy Director Mary Smith:

I am pleased to announce that RADM Nicole Lurie, MD, MSPH, has agreed to serve as the Acting Deputy Director for Quality Health Care. Since 2009, Dr. Lurie has served as the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In this role, Dr. Lurie served as the Secretary's principal advisor on matters related to public health emergencies and provided leadership in preventing, responding to and recovering from the adverse health effects of public health emergencies and disasters. Dr. Lurie previously spent 15 years at the University of Minnesota, during which time she led an initiative to improve quality of care for Native American women. She is an internationally renowned health services researcher and health policy expert.

Dr. Lurie attended college and medical school at the University of Pennsylvania, and completed her residency and MSPH at UCLA, where she was also a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar. She served as Senior Editor for Health Services Research and as President of the Society of General Internal Medicine, as well as on numerous other national committees. She is the recipient of many awards, and is a member of the National Academy of Medicine.

As the Acting Deputy Director for Quality Health Care, Dr. Lurie's duties will include implementing and updating the IHS quality framework and advising IHS offices on quality improvement methods.

Please join me in welcoming and supporting Dr. Lurie as we work to ensure access to high quality health care for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Mary Smith