

BIO-SKETCH

Thomas J. McGinnis, R.Ph.
Director of Pharmacy Affairs
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Thomas J. McGinnis, R.Ph., is Director of Pharmacy Affairs, Office of Policy, in the Office of the Commissioner at FDA. He began his career at FDA in 1977 as a Drug Information Specialist in the Division of Over-the-Counter Drug Evaluation. In 1981 he moved to the Division of Drug Information Resources in the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research's Office of Management. In 1983 he became Chief of the Drug Information Services Branch where he was responsible for publishing FDA's "Orange Book" and other drug information reports and publications related to the implementation of the 1984 amendments to the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

In 1987 he joined the Office of Drug Standards where, as the Executive Assistant to the Director, he helped direct programs for the development of monographs establishing recognition of safety and efficacy in the various categories of over-the-counter drugs, for the regulation of prescription drug advertising and labeling, and for the approval and therapeutic equivalence of generic drug products. He helped establish the new Office of Generic Drugs in 1990 and served as Special Assistant to the office director until joining the Office of the Health Affairs, Office of the Commissioner in April of 1991. He became Deputy Associate Commissioner for Health Affairs in 1997 and moved to the Office of Policy following reorganization of the commissioner's office in 1999. During his tenure at FDA, he has served on a variety of Agency committees, has represented the Agency at a variety of pharmacy meetings and has been a featured speaker on a variety of topics related to the practice of pharmacy.

Mr. McGinnis is a captain in the Public Health Service and has received numerous awards throughout his career. Prior to joining FDA, Mr. McGinnis was a hospital pharmacist in New Jersey. He earned his pharmacy degree from Rutgers University and completed his masters in general administration course work in 1991 at the University of Maryland. The Rutgers College of Pharmacy named him alumnus of the year in 1994. He was appointed to the Board of Advisory of Rutgers College of Pharmacy in 2001.