

NE, Mailstop E-62, Atlanta, Georgia 30333, telephone (404) 639-8345; or Marjorie S. Greenberg, Executive Secretary, NCVHS, NCHS, CDC, Room 1100, Presidential Building, 6525 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782, telephone (301) 458-4245.

Information about the committee, including summaries of past meetings and a roster of committee members, is available on the Committee's website at <http://www.ncvhs.hhs.gov>.

Dated: July 23, 2001.

**James Scanlon,**

*Director, Division of Data Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Office of the Secretary; Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Office of Public Health and Science**

**Statements of Organization, Functions and Delegations of Authority**

Part A, (Office of the Secretary), of the Statement of Organization, Functions, and Delegations of Authority for the Department of Health and Human Services, Chapter AA "Office of the Secretary" as last amended at 60 FR 52403, dated October 6, 1995; Chapter ABC "Office of the Deputy Under Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs" as last amended at 61 FR 24311-12, dated May 14, 1996; and Chapter AC "Office of Public Health and Science" as last amended at 65 FR 37137, dated June 13, 2000 are being amended to reflect the transfer of the Regional Health Administrators (ADA 1-X) from the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs (ABC) to the Office of Public Health and Science. The changes are as follows:

I. Under Chapter ABC, "Office of the Deputy Under Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs," make the following changes:

A. Under Paragraph AD.10 Organization, revise as follows:

AD.10 Organization. The Office of the Regional Director is under the direction and control of the Regional Director, who reports directly to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary through the Director for Intergovernmental Affairs, and consists of the Regional Director (AD 1-X).

B. Under Paragraph AD.20 Function, make the following changes:

1. Delete the last sentence under paragraph A.
2. Delete paragraph B. The Regional Health Administrator (ADA (1-X) in its entirety.

II. Under Chapter AC, "Office of Public Health and Science," make the following changes:

A. Under Paragraph AC.10 Organization, insert the following paragraph, after paragraph L.

M. Office of the Regional Health Administrator (ACD 1-X).

B. Under Paragraph 20. Functions, insert the following paragraph after paragraph (12):

(13) provides oversight and directions to the Regional Health Administrators (1-X).

C. Under Paragraph 20. Functions, insert the following after Paragraph 20, subparagraph L:

M. Regional Health Administrator (ACD1-X)—Reports to the Assistant Secretary for Health. Receives professional guidance from the ASH. Participates in policy development and implementation; directs and coordinates regionally based programs of OPHS, including the offices of Emergency Preparedness, Minority Health, Women's Health and Population Affairs. Develops regional goals and objectives consistent with the needs of the region and in conformity with the national health priorities and objectives and Departmental plans and programs. Serves as the principal official in the assigned area of jurisdiction to provide oversight and coordination for Public Health Service programs. Sustains regular communication with State public health, substance abuse, and mental health agencies as well as other professional and community-based organizations to assist the Assistant Secretary for Health, and PHS Operating Divisions in the formulation, development, analysis and evaluation of PHS OPDIV field programs and cross cutting Departmental initiatives in public health. Develops plans for emergency preparedness and response and directs all Departmental health related activities necessary to ensure continuity of essential functions within the Region in case of an emergency due to enemy action or natural disaster.

Dated: July 20, 2001.

**Dennis P. Williams,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Management and Budget.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Office of the Secretary**

**Findings of Scientific Misconduct**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Office of Research Integrity (ORI) and the Assistant Secretary for Health have taken final action in the following case:

*Raghootama S. Pandurangi, Ph.D., University of Missouri—Columbia (UMo):*

Based on the report of an investigation conducted by UMo and additional analysis conducted by ORI in its oversight review, the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) found that Dr. Pandurangi, a former Research Assistant Professor at UMo, engaged in scientific misconduct by plagiarizing and falsifying research data taken from a journal article published by other scientists for use in supplementary materials of a research grant application submitted to the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Specifically, PHS finds that Dr. Pandurangi plagiarized the images of data in Figures 2A and 2B and related text in supplemental material he submitted in connection with National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), NIH, grant application 1 R01 HL62517-01A2, Myocardial Viability by AII Receptor-99mTc Conjugates," in which he was the principal investigator. Specifically, Figures 2A and 2B and related text were plagiarized from Figures 7C and 7D of the following journal publication: Gibson, R., Beauchamp, H., Fioravanti, C., Brenner, N., and Burns, H.D. "Receptor Binding Radiotracers for the Angiotensin II Receptor: Radioiodinated [Sar<sup>1</sup>, Ile<sup>8</sup>]Angiotensin II," *Nuclear Medicine and Biology* 21:593-600, 1994.

In addition, Dr. Pandurangi falsified the text in the supplement to his NIH grant application by claiming that Figures 2A and 2B represented a compound he had developed. Namely, he claimed that Figure 2A represented radioionated compound <sup>123</sup>I-2C and Figure 2B represented radioionated compound <sup>123</sup>I-2C with nonradioactive compound 2C added as a competitor. However, Figures 2A and 2B were plagiarized from the figures in the above Nuclear Medicine and Biology article, which in reality represented radiolabeled [Sar<sup>1</sup>, Ile<sup>8</sup>]Angiotensin II, with compound L-158-809 as a blocker/competitor.

Dr. Pandurangi has entered into a Voluntary Exclusion Agreement (Agreement) with PHS in which he has voluntarily agreed:

- (1) To exclude himself from any contracting or subcontracting with any agency of the United States Government and from eligibility for, or involvement in, nonprocurement transactions (e.g.,