

The Center for Tobacco Products (CTP) at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has selected Dr. David L. Ashley (CAPT, USPHS) as the Center's first Director for the Office of Science.

As a science-based and science-led Agency; science provides the foundation for our regulatory decisions and the work we do on a daily basis to promote and protect the nations' health. As the Director of Science, Dr. Ashley will provide leadership and management of many scientific domains including tobacco product science, tobacco product review, epidemiology and metrics, as well as social and behavioral sciences.

His leadership, coordination, and support will also be crucial for the scientific activities and advice from the Tobacco Product Scientific Advisory Committee, establishment of tobacco product standards, integration of the public health/population health priority of CTP activities and coordination within the Office of Science.

Throughout his professional career, Dr. Ashley has performed research in the field of tobacco and developed specific expertise in determining the relationship between tobacco product design, contents, emissions, and biomarkers. His research has focused on the impact that the contents of tobacco products and design features such as ventilation and filter components have on the emissions from the product, how the product is used, and exposure of people who use the product or are exposed to second-hand smoke.

His depth of knowledge and expertise has led to his involvement as a member of the World Health Organization (WHO) Study Group on Tobacco Product Regulation and as chair of WHO's Tobacco Laboratory Network.

Prior to this role, Dr. Ashley worked his way up at the CDC from a bench scientist to chief of one of the largest branches in the agency. These positions gave him the skill and expertise needed to lead a scientific organization.

Dr. Ashley will join CTP in June after serving as the Chief of the Emergency Response and Air Toxicants Branch, Division of Laboratory Sciences, National Center for Environmental Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the last decade.

In addition, Dr. Ashley has been the recipient of many awards during his federal career including numerous Public Health Service awards and the NCEH/ATSDR Director's Award in 2009. Dr. Ashley received his Ph.D in Physical Chemistry from Emory University in 1982