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Mary Lou Valdez joined the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as Associate Commissioner for International Programs in 2009. She leads and manages OIP staff around the world, catalyzing FDA global engagement in collaboration with international health and regulatory partners, ministries of health and agriculture, other U.S. Government Agencies, industry, academia, multilateral organizations, and related stakeholders.

Mary Lou Valdez came to the FDA after serving 18 years as Deputy Director of the Office of Global Health Affairs in the Department of Health and Human Services, where she was extensively involved in international health diplomacy.

Mary Lou Valdez has a Master of Science in Management from the University of Maryland University College, and a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Texas at El Paso.