

TASK FORCE UPDATE: PART II

News from the Women’s Health Task Force

Anuradha Paranjape, MD, MPH, and Jennifer McCall-Hosenfeld, MD, MSc

Drs. Paranjape and McCall-Hosenfeld are chair and co-chair, respectively, of the Women’s Health Task Force.

The SGIM Women’s Health Task Force, formed by the SGIM Council in May 2007, continues to uphold the Society’s interest in supporting research, education, and clinical practice in women’s health. For the fifth year in a row, the Women’s Health Task Force hosted a Distinguished Professor in Women’s Health at the 2011 annual meeting. This year’s Distinguished Professor in Women’s Health was Ann Nattinger, MD, MPH. Dr. Nattinger is an SGIM member, a professor of medicine at the Center for Patient Care and Outcomes Research at the Medical College of Wisconsin, and an expert in breast cancer.

As in past years, Dr. Nattinger had an extremely busy day at our annual meeting in Phoenix, responding to women’s health oral abstracts and reviewing women’s health research posters on a walking poster tour. The highlight of her visit was the evening

reception and her keynote address, “What is Your Department Chair Thinking? How to Better Understand and Influence Your Department and Its Leadership.” Once again, this annual event attracted a large number of SGIM members.

In addition, the Women’s Health Task Force would like to recognize the following presentations, which were identified by a five-member review committee using pre-specified review criteria as the most outstanding of this year’s 40 women’s health research presentations:

Best Oral Abstract

Molly Conroy, MD, MPH (University of Pittsburgh): “Effectiveness of a Primary Care Physical Activity Intervention for Obese, Middle-Aged Women: 12-week Results from the Healthy Bodies, Healthy Hearts Study”

Best Poster

Erin Marcus, MD, MPH (University of Miami), “Urban Women’s Preferences for Learning of Their Mammogram Result: a Qualitative Study”

The Women’s Health Task Force would like to thank all those who presented women’s health scientific abstracts, workshops, and the 2011 Update in Women’s Health. We hope to see excellent women’s health content presented at the 2012 meeting.

We are pleased to announce that the Distinguished Professor in Women’s Health for 2012 will be Carol Weisman, PhD, who will be speaking about her experiences on the Institute of Medicine panel that recently released the report, “Clinical Preventive Services for Women: Closing the Gaps.” We look forward to another successful year!

SGIM

Life

In the depths of human despair
Lies a glimmer of hope.
In the heart and soul of those fighting helpless and alone,
Lies a glimmer of belief in the world of possibility.
From a beating heart which fights against infection and disease,
Lies a body vulnerable and weak
Stripped of all the sorrow
Trying to recover day by day;
With medicine at its side
The land of impossibilities comes to light.
New discoveries take on new height;
Transformation begins but isn’t always for the best.
Sometimes it takes the shape of cancer in overgrowth cells
And sometimes it takes the form of a miracle so unexpected yet real that even researchers,
doctors and the like can’t seem to understand—
That which has changed right in front of their hands.
And in the end all we have is hope, our advancing research, and a team of healers, like doctors and nurses
Reminding us of how powerful and healing the human touch can be.

—Sherry Saadat