ACRWH Working Group for the Women’s Health Consensus Conference

Samia Noursi, PhD
Executive Secretary, ACRWH
Associate Director, Science Policy, Planning, and Analysis, Office of Research on Women’s Health (ORWH), NIH
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NIH Revitalization Act of 1993

(d) ADVISORY COMMITTEE-

(1) In carrying out subsection (b), the Director of the Office shall establish an advisory committee to be known as the Advisory Committee on Research on Women's Health (in this subsection referred to as the 'Advisory Committee').

(2) The Advisory Committee shall be composed of no fewer than 12, and not more than 18 individuals, who are not officers or employees of the Federal Government. The Director of the Office shall make appointments to the Advisory Committee from among physicians, practitioners, scientists, and other health professionals, whose clinical practice, research specialization, or professional expertise includes a significant focus on research on women's health. A majority of the members of the Advisory Committee shall be women.

(3) The Director of the Office shall serve as the chair of the Advisory Committee.

(4) The Advisory Committee shall--

(A) advise the Director of the Office on appropriate research activities to be undertaken by the national research institutes with respect to--

(i) research on women's health;

(ii) research on gender differences in clinical drug trials, including responses to pharmacological drugs;

(iii) research on gender differences in disease etiology, course, and treatment;

(iv) research on obstetrical and gynecological health conditions, diseases, and treatments; and

(v) research on women's health conditions which require a multidisciplinary approach;

(B) report to the Director of the Office on such research;

(C) provide recommendations to such Director regarding activities of the Office (including recommendations on the development of the methodologies described in subsection (c)(4)(C) and recommendations on priorities in carrying out research described in subparagraph (A)); and

(D) assist in monitoring compliance with section 492B regarding the inclusion of women in clinical research.

(5)(A) The Advisory Committee shall prepare a biennial report describing the activities of the Committee, including findings made by the Committee regarding

(i) compliance with section 492B;

(ii) the extent of expenditures made for research on women's health by the agencies of the National Institutes of Health; and

(iii) the level of funding needed for such research.

(B) The report required in subparagraph (A) shall be submitted to the Director of NIH for inclusion in the report required in section 403. INCLUSION REPORT MUST GO INTO NIH.
Background Information

• Congress believes that more focus on research related to obstetrics and gynecology is required to address the:
  1. Rising maternal morbidity and mortality rates;
  2. Rising rates of chronic debilitating conditions in women; and
• Congress encourages NIH to convene a consensus conference to evaluate research currently underway related to women’s health with relevant stakeholders.
• Congress has directed NIH to provide an update in the fiscal year 2022 Congressional Justification of Appropriations (CJ) that identifies priority areas for additional study to advance women’s health research, including reproductive sciences.
ORWH’s Action

- ORWH will convene a Women’s Health Consensus Conference (WHCC) including:
  - Women’s Health Researchers
  - ICO representatives
  - Public stakeholders
- The Fall 2021 ACRWH Meeting will serve as the consensus forum focused on assessing the current state of NIH-supported women’s health research.
  - Overall assessment of research on the health of women
  - Focused assessment of research requested
- ORWH will work with ACRWH to prepare a report identifying priority areas for additional study.
Strategy: Parallel Paths that Converge Along the Way

NIH Coordinating Committee on Research on Women’s Health

ACRWH Consensus Conference Working Group

Office of Research on Women’s Health

Public Stakeholders

Women’s Health Consensus Conference
Asks of the ACRWH Women’s Health Consensus Conference (WHCC) Working Group

1. Seek input from experts in women’s health research and the function and structure of the NIH enterprise
2. Seek input from public and relevant stakeholders
3. Review women’s health research portfolio assessments
4. Plan Women’s Health Consensus Conference
5. Contribute to the WHCC Report
General Timeline

- **May 2021**- 1st Meeting of ACRWH WHCC WG
- **June 2021**- 2nd Meeting of ACRWH WHCC WG
- **July 2021**- 3rd Meeting of ACRWH WHCC WG
- **September 1st, 2021**- ACRWH Special Meeting
- **October 20-21st, 2021**- Joint Consensus Conference/ACRWH Meeting