Samia Noursi, Ph.D. (she/her)
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Samia Noursi, Ph.D., is the Associate Director for Science Policy, Planning, and Analysis at ORWH. She advises the ORWH Director and directs the office on all topics related to science policy; strategic planning and evaluation; relationships and activities related to legislative, advocacy, and scientific organizations; and analysis. Dr. Noursi promotes progress in research focused on the health of women through the development of sound policy, comprehensive strategic planning, and rigorous analysis.

Dr. Noursi has over 30 years of experience in conducting, evaluating, and administering programs focused on a range of topics, including women’s health and child development. She received her Ph.D. in applied developmental psychology from the University of Maryland in 1995. Upon graduation, she was awarded a postdoctoral fellowship at the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, during which she led a longitudinal study on the effects of domestic violence on children’s development. She then moved to work on several projects focused on children’s development, among them directing research for the National Child Welfare Resource Center on Legal and Judicial Issues at the American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law. From 2006 to 2018, Dr. Noursi worked at the National Institute on Drug Abuse in multiple roles: studying and communicating about sex and gender differences in drug use; prenatal exposure; various treatment services for women, including drug treatment court; women and HIV; and tobacco use among pregnant women. Dr. Noursi has presented numerous papers at national professional conferences and authored articles in both peer-reviewed journals and books. Dr. Noursi joined ORWH in 2018.