Overview of Session

• Overview of VA women’s health research
  – Including VA capacity to accelerate delivery of evidence-based care for women

• Overview of women Veterans using VA care
  – Including VA’s primary care workforce

• Women Veterans’ mental health research

• Servicewomen’s deployment health
  – Including updates on new research for women warriors
Time for Q&A

• Questions may be posed throughout today’s cyberseminar by typing in comment box
  – We will work to answer questions at the end
    • If your particular question isn’t addressed before the session concludes, we will work to email replies or connect you to someone who can answer your question

• Views expressed do not represent positions or policy of VA or US government

• References are at the end of all four talks
Overview of VA Women’s Health Research

Elizabeth M. Yano, PhD, MSPH

Director, VA Women’s Health Research Network (Consortium); Director, VA Women Veterans’ Healthcare CREATE Initiative; Director, VA Los Angeles HSR&D Center for the Study of Healthcare Innovation, Implementation & Policy; Adjunct Professor, Department of Health Policy & Management, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health
VA Women’s Health Research Agenda

Sec VA 2003

Office of R&D

HSR&D

Planning Group

Secondary Analyses of VA Data

Systematic Lit Review

Agenda-Setting Conference

PI Needs

VA Women’s Health Research Agenda (2004)
VA Women’s Health Research Agenda

**Infrastructure Group**

**Build capacity**
(networking, collaboration, mentoring, RFPs)

**Address methodological limitations & barriers**
(scientific review, technical consults, interventions → multi-site research/PBRN)

↕ visibility/awareness
(publication, dissemination, communication, impact)

↑ # people
↑ # grants
↑ # papers

- Biomedical/Lab R&D
- Clinical Sciences R&D
- Rehabilitation R&D
- Health Services R&D
We documented the journey...

PERSPECTIVE

Toward a VA Women’s Health Research Agenda: Setting Evidence-based Priorities to Improve the Health and Health Care of Women Veterans

Elizabeth M. Yano, PhD,1,2 Lori A. Bastian, MD,3,4 Susan M. Frayne, MD, MPH,5,6 Alexandra L. Howell, PhD,7,8 Linda R. Lipson, MA,9 Geraldine McGlynn, MEd,10 Paula P. Schnurr, PhD,8,11 Margaret R. Seaver, MD, MPH,12,13 Ann M. Spungen, PhD,14,15 Stephan D. Flinn, MD, MPH16,17

The State of Women Veterans’ Health Research

Results of a Systematic Literature Review

Caroline L. Goldzweig, MD, MSHS,7 Talene M. Balekian, MPH, DO,1 Cony Rolón, BA,1,2 Elizabeth M. Yano, PhD,1 Paul G. Shekelle, MD, PhD1,2

1Southern California Evidence-Based Practice Center, Greater Los Angeles VA Healthcare System, Los Angeles, CA, USA; 2RAND Health, Santa Monica, CA, USA.

PERSPECTIVE

Women and War

What Physicians Should Know

Maureen Murdoch, MD, MPH,1,2 Arlene Bradley, MD, FACP,3 Susan H. Mather, MD, MPH,4 Robert E. Klein, PhD, MA,5 Carole L. Turner, RNP, MN, CNA,6 Elizabeth M. Yano, PhD, MSPH7,8
VA Women’s Health Research Consortium

- Training/education/mentoring
- Methods consultations/scans
- Collaborative research dev’t
- Dissemination support

VA Women’s Health Practice Based Research Network

- Engage local clinicians, leaders
- Increase recruitment of women
- Enable multisite research
- Accelerate implementation/impact
Focus on VA Health Care & Partnerships

VA Women’s Health Research Agenda (2011)

- Access/rural health
- Primary care/prevention
- Mental health
- Post-deployment health
- Reproductive health
- Complex chronic conditions/long term care and aging
Number of VA Women’s Health Researchers (2004)

At time of 1st VA Women’s Health Conference
At time of 2nd VA Women’s Health Conference
Number of VA Women’s Health Researchers (2017)

Over 300 VA researchers and clinician educators...
At the last WV Summit, the Secretary announced that there had been “more papers published in the last 5 years than the previous 25 years combined”

Since then, the # of VA women’s health research papers has skyrocketed 6-fold…
Tailoring primary care, primary care-mental health integration, cardiovascular risk reduction, Intimate partner violence, maternity care quality, work and family functioning, contraceptive use, substance use disorders treatment, post-deployment stressors, preconception care, use/attrition, MST, PTSD treatment, outsourced care, suicide prevention, etc.
VA investment in the future

- VA women’s health postdoctoral fellowships
- VA career development awardees (CDAs)

- Smoking cessation, intimate partner violence, substance use disorders, MST, cardiovascular risk reduction, weight management, justice-involved Veterans, transgender health, preconception care, maternity care quality, diabetes management, homeless Veteran families, and more
New Initiatives

• Developed WHRN to ↑ inclusion in VA research
  – Gender differences in access, use, quality, satisfaction
  – Gender differences in intervention outcomes so care
    models work for women as well as they do for men
  – ↑ focus on women’s health because we are different

• Developed Women Veterans’ CREATE Initiative
  – Accelerate implementation of comprehensive care
  – Determinants of attrition, impacts of variations in
    comprehensive care options, Women’s Health PACT,
    Gynecology SCAN-ECHO, quality of outsourced care

• Developed the EMPOWER QUERI Program
  – Engage WVs to gender-tailor PC-MH integration, CVD risk
    reduction and diabetes prevention programs
We are your research workforce

• Clinicians
  – Primary care, women’s health, psychiatry, psychology, obstetrics/gynecology, genetics, gastroenterology, cardiology, nursing, and more

• Social scientists
  – Health services research, epidemiology, sociology, anthropology, social psychology, health policy, health economics, and more

• Help us help you by letting us know your priorities, giving input on methods, and participating in research