Women in Medicine Month

The AAMC Group on Women in Medicine and Science (GWIMS) is proud to celebrate Women in Medicine Month! Each week in the month of September we will feature spotlights and leadership lessons from women in educator, scientist, physician, and leadership roles.

Week Three: Women as Physicians

Women as Physicians Spotlight

“We physicians must avoid the ‘Facebook effect,’ in which people share unrealistic images that can make others feel inadequate. Yes, we develop a degree of professional detachment when we need to share bad news with a patient, for example. But we should also be willing to share more of our true selves.”

Mona M. Abaza, MD, MS
Professor of Otolaryngology
Vice Chair of Faculty Affairs and Diversity
University of Colorado, School of Medicine

“Furthering diversity in racial and gender representation in the C-Suite of academic medicine will shift the lens from which we view leadership into one that is more inclusive and reflective of the population being treated which will ultimately change the dynamic make-up of those in the pipeline, representing the next generation”

Cherisse Berry, MD, FACS
Diplomate of the American Board of Surgery
Associate Trauma Medical Director
Assistant Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery,
Division of Acute Care Surgery
NYU School of Medicine, NYU Langone Health
“As I look back on my successes and failures, I am inspired by the women who have taught me, mentored me, coached me, and supported me so I could be my best. These women have made all the difference in my life and career, and it is my honor to carry that forward to future generations of women in medicine.”

Tammy Chang, MD, MPH, MS
Assistant Professor
Department of Family Medicine
Co-Director, National Clinician Scholars Program
University of Michigan

“Do not let others define your success. It is not simply aiming for the top (whatever that means). It is about perseverance and steadfastly moving Life forward, even, against all odds (“contra viento y marea”).”

Olga G. de Lopez, MD
Staff Pathologist

“The power and impact of women in medicine cannot be overestimated! Our women of color in particular, serve a critical role in medicine. The younger generation of future health care providers, both women and men, only need to look at the path that has been carved by all of our women in medicine to understand this. In addition to intellectual equality that women of medicine possess, the path that women have taken and carved is lined with persistence, love, resilience, wisdom, empathy, strength and polyphony.”

Melvina McCabe, MD
Professor of Medicine
Vice Chair, Family Medicine Diversity
University of New Mexico School of Medicine

“I echo the sentiments of many women that until we have significant representation in the leadership realm at academic medical centers, little will change. We have a great deal to offer as women leaders, but as a society, we still have hurdles to overcome around gender-based differences in our leadership styles, as well as deeply ingrained prejudices about female strength, image and power.”
Join us on Social Media

To show your support for women in medicine month (#WiMmonth), please consider sharing the suggested tweet below (or RT from @AAMCtoday’s account):

I support women in medicine. RT if you do, too. #WIMmonth #GWIMS

GWIMS Resources

Beyond Climate Surveys: Achieving Inclusion Excellence in Research and Clinical Settings Webinar
Beginning on Sept. 23, 3 p.m. ET, the AAMC Group on Research Education and Training (GREAT) and GWIMS are hosting a series of webinars to address some of the critical topics at the intersection of gender equity and biomedical research training. DE&I leaders are called to move their institutions beyond compositional diversity and towards inclusion excellence. To assist with these efforts, the AAMC developed the tool FPIE (Foundational Principles of Inclusion Excellence). Through rich and transparent dialogue, the FPIE allows stakeholders to assess their institutions' work and learning environments based on 9 principles of inclusion. The webinar’s goal is to share the experiences of schools that piloted the tool (i.e., launching strategies, implementation, and action plan execution) and invite attendees to think about how they may employ the FPIE at their institutions in research and clinical spaces. Register Now
Webinar Recording Now Available! Community Call: Creative Strategies to Address the Gendered Impact of COVID-19
The GWIMS hosted a community call on Sept. 3, which addressed childcare services in light of the pandemic. GWIMS worked with Group on Business Affairs (GBA) prior to the call to administer a survey of HR staff at medical schools to gather more information about childcare services both before and after quarantine to identify potential barriers to women staying in, or returning to, the workforce. Watch Now

GWIMS Toolkit
The GWIMS Toolkit is a series of presentations designed to provide practical guidance on a variety of topics relevant to women faculty in academic medicine. Each presentation provides an overview of the topic, relevant best practices, tips on implementation, and useful references for more information. GWIMS Toolkits are useful resources that will help advance women in leadership roles.

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GWIMS Toolkits

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