

# WHAM!

## COLLABORATIVE

Women make up a little more than half of the U.S. population, but are grossly underrepresented in medical research, drug research and medical device development – even for diseases that affect women more than men. WHAM! is focused on closing the gender gap in medical research – so that we can prevent, diagnose, and treat diseases in women.

The WHAM! Collaborative is a group of leading scientists focused on women's health research who help inform everything WHAM! does. WHAM! Collaborative members work together to:

- Identify and prioritize key questions for women's health research
- Develop studies, collaborate on research, share insights and information
- Generate interest and momentum in the research community to focus on women's health



**Dr. Wendy Bennett, MD, MPH**  
**Associate Professor of Medicine, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine**  
**Co-Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Women's Health, Sex, and Gender Research**

Dr. Wendy Bennett's research focus is on weight management and obesity control and studied behavioral interventions to promote health weight gain in pregnancy and postpartum weight loss. As the Co-Director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Women's Health, Sex, and Gender Research, Dr. Bennett is committed to identifying and ultimately eliminating the biomedical research gaps for in women's health.



**Dr. Roberta Brinton, PhD**  
**Director, UA Center for Innovation in Brain Science, University of Arizona Health Sciences**

Dr. Roberta Brinton is a leading neuroscientist in the field of Alzheimer's disease, with a particular focus on the aging female brain and regenerative therapeutics. Of the 5.7 million Americans with Alzheimer's disease, two thirds are women. Dr. Brinton's research investigates the sex-based differences in Alzheimer's disease to better understand why women are disproportionately affected and help lead the medical community to precision medicine for all patients afflicted. Dr. Brinton's research is focused on the mechanisms, including sex-based differences, underlying late onset Alzheimer's and developing therapeutics to prevent, delay and cure the disease.



**Dr. Marjorie Jenkins, MD**  
**Dean, University of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville**  
**Chief Academic Officer, Prisma Health-Upstate**

In addition to her work as a clinician, Dr. Marjorie Jenkins has been a fierce academic and program innovator, incorporating sex and gender inclusive models and educational resources at medical schools and institutions across the country. Dr. Jenkins launched the U.S. Sex and Gender Medical Education Summit to address disparities in research focusing on women's health and was the Founding Executive Director and Chief Scientific Officer for the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health.



**Dr. Hadine Joffe, MD, MSc**  
**Founding Member and Lead Scientific Advisor to the WHAM! Collaborative**  
**Executive Director, Mary Horrigan Connors Center for Women's Health Research, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Vice Chair for Psychiatry Research, Department of Psychiatry, Brigham and Women's Hospital Paula A. Johnson Associate Professor of Psychiatry in the Field of Women's Health, Brigham and Women's Hospital**

Dr. Hadine Joffe is an internationally recognized women's health researcher, educator, and clinician. In her research, Dr. Joffe is dedicated to advancing the understanding, treatment, and consequences of symptoms resulting from reproductive hormone changes in the brain, with a particular focus on women who have breast cancer. As the Director of the Connors Center, Dr. Joffe supports faculty and trainees in forging new ground in women's health research and works to ensure that research translates to patient care and is aligned with women's health advocacy priorities.



**Dr. Wendy Klein, MD, MACP**  
**Former Medical Director, Health Brigade**

Dr. Wendy Klein never saw a female doctor while growing up, but this only made her more determined to follow her passion for medicine and serve as a role model for future generations of female doctors. Dr. Wendy Klein is board certified in Internal Medicine and has devoted her career to improving women's health and eliminating the inequities in the research gap. She is the former Medical Director of Health Brigade, the oldest free clinic in Virginia which provided medical care to vulnerable and under-served populations.



**Dr. JoAnn Manson, DrPH, MD**  
**Michael and Lee Bell Professor of Women's Health, Medicine, Harvard Medical School**  
**Co-Director, Women's Health, Brigham and Women's Hospital**  
**Professor, Epidemiology, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health**  
**Chief, Preventive Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital**

Dr. JoAnn Manson is a prominent women's health expert, and conducts research across several WHAM! disease focus areas, including cardiovascular disease and breast cancer. In particular, Dr. Manson focuses on the role of lifestyle factors, diet, micronutrient supplementation, and hormone replacement therapy as determinants of cardiovascular disease, stroke, and breast cancer in women.



**Dr. Alyson McGregor, MD**  
**Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University**  
**Director, Division of Sex and Gender in Emergency Medicine**

Dr. Alyson McGregor's research on the impact of sex and gender differences in emergency medicine have made her a leading spokesperson for sex- and gender-based research around the world. From a TEDx talk with over 1.5 million views to her book, "Sex Matters: How Male-Centric Medicine Endangers Women's Health – and What We Can Do About It," Dr. McGregor has sparked a national conversation around the concept of sex and gender differences in the delivery of acute medical care.



**Dr. Michelle Mielke, PhD**  
**Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Neurology, Mayo Clinic**  
**Co-Director, Specialized Center for Research Excellence on Sex Differences, Mayo Clinic**

Dr. Michelle Mielke works to further the understanding of the epidemiology of neurodegenerative diseases and the sex-specific differences in the risk and progression of these diseases, including Alzheimer's disease. As the Co-Director of the Specialized Center for Research Excellence on Sex Differences, Dr. Mielke leads research that will lead to identification of sex-specific risk factors in both men and women to better predict risk of neurodegenerative diseases and accelerated aging. By studying sex differences, Dr. Mielke hopes to contribute to improved precision-based medicine for men and women.



**Dr. Judy Regensteiner, PhD**  
**Director, Center for Women's Health Research, University of Colorado**  
**Anschutz Medical Campus, Professor of Medicine, Internal Medicine and Cardiology, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus**

Dr. Judith Regensteiner's research focuses on the cardiovascular effects of diabetes with a specific focus on women with type 2 diabetes, because they appear to have more significant abnormalities than men with type 2 diabetes. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in women, yet only one third of participants in clinical trials of cardiovascular disease are women. Dr. Regensteiner's work showcases the substantial sex- and gender-based differences in cardiovascular disease and the importance of studying women in clinical research. As the co-founder and Director of the Center for Women's Health Research, Dr. Regensteiner also leads an interdisciplinary team of researchers focusing on women's health and sex differences in clinical research.



**Dr. Stacey Rosen, MD**  
**Senior Vice President for Women's Health, Katz Institute for Women's Health, Northwell Health**  
**Partners Council Professor of Women's Health, Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine at Hofstra University**

Dr. Stacey Rosen is a cardiologist and the Senior Vice President for the Katz Institute for Women's Health. At the Katz Institute, Dr. Rosen focuses on the elimination of health care disparities through comprehensive clinical programs, gender-based research, community partnerships and education. She also produced the movie, Ms. Diagnosed, to showcase the real women whose lives and families have been disastrously affected by the inequities women face in receiving medical care.



**Dr. Kathryn Sandberg, PhD**  
**Professor and Vice Chair for Research, Department of Medicine, Georgetown University Medical Center, Director, Center for the Study of Sex Differences in Health, Aging, and Disease, Georgetown University**  
**Director, Predoc and Postdoc Training Program, Georgetown-Howard Universities Center for Clinical and Translational Science**

Dr. Sandberg's research focuses on the molecular mechanisms underlying the sex differences in the incidence and rate of progression of hypertension and associated cardiovascular and renal disease. Dr. Sandberg has found that the incidence and rate of progression of these disease states is higher in men than age-matched women, until women reach menopause. After menopause, women rapidly catch up with men. Through Dr. Sandberg's research, we will develop a better understanding of cardiovascular disease risks for both men and women during aging.



**Dr. Antonella Santucci Chadha, PhD**  
**Co-Founder, Women's Brain Project**  
**Head Stakeholder Liaison, Alzheimer's Disease, Biogen**  
**International Medical Manager, Alzheimer's Disease, Roche Diagnostics Europe**

Dr. Antonella Santucci Chadha has decades of experience in clinical pathology, neuroscience, and psychiatric disorders. As a medical doctor, Dr. Santucci Chadha conducted preclinical research, patient treatment, clinical development, and helped establish the international regulatory framework for Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Santucci Chadha is committed to removing bias in clinical research so that precision medicine and novel technologies can be delivered to patients in a more precise and timely manner and is advocating for the creation of an Institute for Sex and Gender Precision Medicine in Switzerland.



**Dr. Suzanne Steinbaum, DO**  
**Director of Women's Cardiovascular Prevention, Health and Wellness, Mt. Sinai Heart in New York City**

Dr. Suzanne Steinbaum is an attending cardiologist, specializing in prevention, and is an expert in women and heart disease. Dr. Steinbaum has devoted her career to the treatment of heart disease through early detection, education, and prevention. She is an active spokesperson for women's heart health, is a regular contributor to many TV and print new outlets, and speaks at leading health summits. Dr. Steinbaum has spoken at the United Nations, been featured on Good Morning America and the View, and has published several books on women's cardiovascular health.



**Connie Tyne**  
**Executive Director, Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health**

Connie Tyne has a passion for keeping people healthy, particularly women who have been underserved in health care. As the Executive Director of the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health, Ms. Tyne promotes women's health causes by funding research, providing education to healthcare professionals, and sponsoring community programs and health screenings for women and girls around the country.



**Dr. Nicole Weitowich, PhD**  
**Associate Director, Center for Reproductive Science, Northwestern University**  
**Associate Director, Women's Health Research Institute, Northwestern University**  
**Research Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology**

Dr. Nicole Weitowich focuses on the evaluation of the biomedical research enterprise through various lenses, such as the integration of science outreach into existing research infrastructure, and the advancement of women and minorities in STEM and medicine to help bridge the gap in women's health research. As Associate Director of the Women's Health Research Institute at Northwestern University, Dr. Weitowich is a fierce advocate for expanded women's health research, putting a spotlight on the effects of sex and gender on health.