

CYNTHIA A. PEARSON

EDUCATION

BA in Biology

University of California, San Diego

1976

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Executive Director

National Women's Health Network

1996 – May 2021

- Chief executive officer for national consumer health advocacy group with thousands of individual members
- Co-founded Raising Women's Voices for the Health Care We Need, a network of grassroots state and local women's health groups, to press for national health reform
- Represented the NWHN position on women's health issues in the media and to the White House, Congress, HHS and other governmental agencies

Program Director

National Women's Health Network

1987 – May 1996

- Coordinated all programs, research projects and related staff
- Prepared organizational policy statements, testimony and press releases
- Testified before Congressional committees and the FDA on breast cancer, midlife women's health issues, and new barrier contraceptives and many other issues

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Statement honoring Cynthia Pearson and her Outstanding Contributions to the Health of Women and Girls, the Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro, Congressional Record 2021
- Keystone Award for Advocacy for Women's Health Research, Office of Research on Women's Health, National Institutes of Health 2010
- Feminist Majority Foundation 2002
- Special Service Award, National Association for Women's Health 1999
- The MAMM 50, MAMM Magazine 1998
- Commissioner's Special Citation, Food and Drug Administration 1995
- Chieftancy Comb, D.C. Women's Council on AIDS 1991

PUBLICATIONS

Moynihan R, Bero L, Hill S, Johansson M, Lexchin J, Macdonald H, et al. including Pearson, C. Pathways to independence: towards producing and using trustworthy evidence. *BMJ*. 2019 Dec 3;367-72.

Urato, AC, Abi-Jaoude E, Abramson J, Alter H, Andrew LB, Antonuccio D, et al. including Pearson, CA. National Partnership for Maternal Safety: Consensus Bundle on Venous Thromboembolism [letter]. *Obstet Gynecol*. 2019 Nov;134(5):1115-17.

Pearson, CA. Cynthia Pearson Comments [editorial]. *Am J Pub Health*. 2019 June;109(6):46.

Pearson, CA. Barbara Seaman, 1935-2008. *J Women's Health*. 2008 July;17(6):921-2.

Krieger, N, Ilana Löwy, Aronowitz R, Bigby J, Dickersin K, Garner E, et al. including Pearson, C. Hormone replacement therapy, cancer, controversies, and women's health: historical, epidemiological, biological, clinical, and advocacy perspectives. *Epidemiol Community Health*. 2005;59(9):740-48.

Fugh-Berman A, Pearson, CA. The Overselling of Hormone Replacement Therapy. *Pharmacotherapy*. 2002 Oct;22(9):1205-8.

Pearson, C. Patient-Centered Decision Making: Empowering Women to Make Informed Choices – Panel Discussion. *Women's Health Issues*. 2001 Jul/Aug;11(4):334-36.

Pearson, CA. Directive Counseling Should Emphasize Disease Protection, Not Pregnancy Prevention [letter]. *Am J Pub Health* 1997 Nov;87(11):1868

Pearson, CA. National Women's Health Network and the US FDA: Two Decades of Activism. *Reprod Health Matters*. 1995 Jul;6:132-41.

Additional Publications for Consumers (selected examples)

Simpson, M. and Pearson, C. Taking a Principled Approach to the Provision of LARCs. National Partnership for Women and Families Reproductive Health blog. 2016 Dec.

Pearson, C. We've Got You Covered: 10 Things Women Need to Know About Health Reform. *Ms. Magazine*. 2013 Spring:38-41.

National Women's Health Network (Pearson C, Fugh-Berman A, Allina A, Massion C, Whatley M, Worcester N, Zones J.) *The Truth About Hormone Replacement Therapy*. Prima (Random House), 2002.

Pearson, CA. Mammography Controversy: NIH Consensus Panel Recommends Women Make an Individual Decision. *Vital Signs*. 1997 II:15-16.

Additional articles for consumers published by the National Women's Health Network

Pearson, C. Strong Bones or Heavy Bones? Let's Find Out. *The Women's Health Activist*. 2021 July/Aug:4-5.

Pearson, C. COVID-19: Evaluating New Vaccines. *The Women's Health Activist*. 2020 Fall:6-7.

Pearson, C. Protecting and Expanding Medicaid Means Confronting Racism Baked into the Program. *The Women's Health Activist*. 2019 May/Jun;44(3):7,11.

Pearson, C. Cancer and Birth Control: Just Give Us the Facts. *The Women's Health Activist*. 2018 March/April:14.

Pearson, C. Two Years Too Late? Researchers Announce Hoped-for Results, Stall on Revealing Actual Data. *The Women's Health Activist*. 2014 Nov/Dec;39(6):1,3,10.

Raymond, J and Pearson, C. Menopause, Hormone Therapy and Aging Skin – Is There a Connection? *The Women's Health Activist*. 2011 July/Aug:4-5.

Pearson, C. You Heard it Here First: Hysterectomy for Benign Conditions Isn't So Benign After All. *The Women's Health Activist*; 2011 May/Jun;36(3):6-7.

Pearson, C. Know Your Number? Not This One! *The Women's Health Activist*. 2010 May/June:1,3.

Pearson, C. Mammography and Breast Cancer: Sometimes What You See is Not What You Get. *The Women's Health Activist*. 2009 July/Aug:5.

Raymond, J and Pearson, C. Does the Timing of Menopause Hormone Therapy Really Matter When It Comes to Heart Disease? *The Women's Health Activist*. 2009 May/June:5.

Pearson, C. Public Health Workers Raise Their Voices for Health Care for All. *The Women's Health Activist*. 2009 Jan/Feb:10.

Pearson, C. Ovarian Cancer Prevention: The Trial That Almost Didn't Happen. *The Women's Health Activist*: 2008 Jan/Feb:4.

Pearson, C. Screening Mammograms: When Fighting for Coverage and Quality Isn't Enough. *The Women's Health Activist*. 2007 Jan/Feb:1,3.

Pearson, C. What Can the Women's Health Initiative Tell Us About How to Age Healthfully? Part II. *The Women's Health Activist*. 2006 Jul/Aug;31(4): 6-7.

Pearson, C. What Can the Women's Health Initiative Tell Us About How to Age Healthfully? Part I. *The Women's Health Activist*. 2006 May/June;31(3):4-5.

Pearson, C. You Heard It Here First (and, You Helped Make It Happen): Breast Cancer and a Low-Fat Diet. *The Women's Health Activist*. 2005 Nov/Dec:3.

Pearson, C. Falling Episiotomy Rates Vindicate Longtime Critics. *The Network News*. 2002 May/June:3.

Fugh-Berman, A, Pearson, C, Allina, A, Zones, J, et al. Manufacturing Need, Manufacturing 'Knowledge.' *The Network News*. 2002 May/June:1,4.

Pearson, C. Estrogen and "Tall Girls": Not So Fast. *The Network News*. 2002 May/June:3.

Pearson, C. Tough Questions About Breast Cancer. *The Network News*. 2001 Sept/Oct:1.

Pearson, C. Are Women with Early Breast Cancer Over-treated? *The Network News*. 2001 Sept/Oct:4.

Pearson, C. New Test and Scientific Review Bolster Network's Position on Pre-Term Labor. *The Network News*. 2001 July/Aug:4.

Pearson, C. An Advocacy Response to the 10th Anniversary of the Office of Research on Women's Health: The Whole Woman and Nothing Less. *The Network News*. 2000 Nov/Dec:1,6.

Pearson, C. Matria Drops Lawsuit: Network Wins Major Victory on Terbutaline Pump. 1998 Jan/Feb:1,6.

Pearson, C. Randomized Trial of Estrogen and Progesterone Finds Risks, Benefits. *The Network News*. 1995 May/June:2.

Pearson, C. Douching: New Dangers Identified. *The Network News*. 1991 March/April/May:7.

Pearson, C. Mitral Valve Prolapse: Benign Syndrome? *The Network News*. 1991 March/April/May:8.

Pearson, C. The Trials of the Women's Health Trial. *The Network News*. 1991 Jan/Feb:1,3.

Pearson, C. Condom Update. *The Network News*. 1990 May/June:5.

NWHN Perspective [series]: Breast Cancer and African American Women; Breast Cancer and Latinas; Breast Cancer and Native American Women; Breast Cancer at Asian Pacific Islander American Women. 1993

National Women's Health Network. Taking Hormones and Women's Health: Choices, Risks and Benefits. 1989.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Consumer Perspective on Compounded ‘Bioidentical Hormone Replacement Therapy’” invited to present to the National Academies of Science Committee on Clinical Utility of Treating Patients with Compounded ‘Bioidentical Hormone Replacement Therapy.’ May 6, 2019.

“Consumer Groups and Perceived Conflict of Interest” invited to present at the annual meeting of Consumers United for Evidence. July 13, 2018.

“Principles for Patient-Centered Provision of Long-Acting Reversible Contraception” invited to present opening keynote at EverThrive Illinois’ Contraceptive Justice Symposium. April 19, 2018.

“Serving Patients through a Reproductive Justice Lens” invited to co-present CME-accredited session at Planned Parenthood Federation of America’s annual Medical Committee meeting. October 12, 2017.

“Priorities in Women’s Health” invited to present at the 25th Anniversary Congress on Women’s Health. April 27, 2017.

“The Crowded Exam Room: LARCs and Reproductive Coercion” invited to present at Planned Parenthood Federation of America’s national conference. June 9, 2016.

“Overdiagnosis and Women’s Health: Challenges and Opportunities” invited to present plenary session keynote at the Preventing Overdiagnosis conference. September 2, 2015.

“Too Fast or Too Slow or Just Right” invited to present at the Patient, Consumer and Public Health Coalition Conference. February 9, 2012.

“Osteoporosis: Making Sense of Ads, Tests and Treatments” invited to present at the Deerfield Forum. January 22, 2011.

“Health Care Reform as an Opportunity to Advance Evidence-Based Women’s Health Care” invited to present at the Consumers United for Evidence-based Healthcare Summit. October 17, 2010.

“National Guidelines on Mammography and Breast Self-Examination: A Critical Perspective” invited to present at the Quantitative Reasoning and Women’s Health Seminar, Wellesley College. February 25, 2010.

“Expanding Access to Contraception Through Advocacy for Health Care Reform” invited to present at the Funders Network on Population, Reproductive Health and Rights Washington Briefing. March 13, 2008.

“Feminist Uses of Science and Technology” invited to present at a plenary session of the National Women’s Studies Association conference. June 18, 2004.

“Implications for Future Research” invited to present at the NIH Scientific Workshop on Menopausal Hormone Therapy. October 24, 2002.

“Advocacy Response: The Whole Woman and Nothing Less” invited to present at the Office of Research on Women’s Health 10th Anniversary Scientific Conference. September 11, 2000.

“Consumer Perspectives on Raloxifene for Breast Cancer Prevention” invited to present to the American Society of Clinical Oncology. May 18, 1998.

“The View from DC” invited to present at the National Asian American Women’s Health Organization conference. February 1, 1998.

“Patient Information Needs: Consumer Perspective” invited to present at the FDA Prescription Drug Information Workshop. February 14, 1996.

“Consumer Perspective on OTC Industries” invited to present at the Food and Drug Law Institute Conference. December 1995.

“Consumer Perspective on Direct-to-Consumer Advertising of Prescription Drugs” invited to present at an FDA hearing. October 19, 1995.

“The FDA and Breast Cancer: Consumer Involvement” invited to present at the National Breast Cancer Coalition Advocacy Training Conference. May 1995.

“Hormone Replacement Therapy and the Cultural Meaning of Menopause” invited to present at the Native Women and Our Communities: Third Native Women’s Reproductive Rights Coalition Conference. April 10, 1994.

“Screening for Cancer” invited to present at the Meeting the Health Care Needs of Women conference of Kaiser Permanente Southern California. April 7, 1994.

“Mammography Screening Guidelines” invited to present at to the National Cancer Institute Board of Scientific Counselors. October 21, 1993.

“Women and Cancer: Evaluating the National Cancer Program” invited to present to the President’s Cancer Panel. September 22, 1993.

“The NWHN’s Perspective on HRT and Cardiovascular Protection” invited to present to the American Heart Association. May 9, 1991.

SERVICE

Service on national boards, advisory and other committees

Our Bodies, Ourselves, Advisory Board 2007 – current.

National Breast Cancer Coalition and National Breast Cancer Coalition Foundation Board of Directors, Treasurer, 1993 – 2015.

Stop Dysfunctional Uterine Bleeding (STOP DUB) clinical trial, Data Safety Monitoring Committee, 1998 – 2001.

National Action Plan on Breast Cancer, Steering Committee and co-chair of the Etiology Working Group, 1995 – 2000.

Reproductive Health Technology Project, Board of Directors, 1988 – 1998.

Campaign for Women's Health, Steering Committee, 1990 – 1995.

D.C. Women's Council on AIDS, Board of Directors, President, 1988 – 1995.

Women's Caucus of the American Public Health Association, Program Chair, 1992 – 1993.