



The Institute for Women's Health Research
at
Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine
presents

first annual Northwestern Science Symposium

Women and Cognitive Health

October 24, 2008

Prentice Women's Hospital, 250 East Superior Street, Chicago, IL 60611

Description:

The Institute for Women's Health Research at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine is pleased to present its first annual Northwestern Science Symposium, *Women and Cognitive Health*, to be held at the new Prentice Women's Hospital in Chicago, Illinois, on October 24, 2008, from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. This inaugural event will provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of scientific findings and ideas related to women and cognitive health, and will attract scholars, physicians and researchers from around the country. A panel of distinguished experts will present data from epidemiological, clinical, and experimental studies aimed at improving our understanding of cognitive function in women throughout the life span, the influence of hormones in cognition-related brain areas, mechanisms and hormone action in neurons, and identifying the most important issues of future research.

Speakers and topics include:

- Phyllis Wise, PhD, University of Washington, Keynote presentation on gender-based biology and its impact on women's health and the practice of medicine
- Roberta Diaz Brinton, Ph.D., University of Southern California, "Healthy Cell Bias of Estrogen Action: Implications for Developing Novel NeuroSERMS and PhytoSERMs for Prevention of Alzheimer's Disease"
- Daniel M. Dorsa, Ph.D., Oregon Health & Science University, "Toward an Understanding of the Importance of Membrane-Initiated effects of Estrogen in Neurons and Glia"
- Francine Grodstein, SC.D., Harvard Medical School, "Postmenopausal Hormone Therapy and Neurologic Outcomes: Data from the Nurses' Health Study"
- Pauline Maki, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Chicago, "Hormone Therapy and Cognitive Health"

- John H. Morrison, Ph.D., Mount Sinai School of Medicine, “Interactive Effects of Age and Estrogen on Cortical Neurons: Implications for Cognitive Aging”
- Catherine Woolley, Ph.D., Northwestern University, “Estrogen regulates synaptic transmission in cognition-related brain areas”

Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, participants will be able to:

1. Cite the complexities of designing a female endocrinology clinical trial and how those complexities influence the clinical trial’s conclusions.
2. Interpret new data released from the Nurses’ Health Study on cognitive function.
3. Cite the effects of menopausal hormone treatment and cognitive functions, particularly memory.
4. Describe how estrogen influences the structure and function of the brain.
5. Examine the relationship of hormone treatment initiation to major neurological outcomes, including stroke and cognitive impairment.
6. Explore strategies to promote neurological health and function throughout the aging process and prevent neurodegenerative diseases.

This event is sponsored by the Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine, the Institute for Women’s Health Research, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Friends of Prentice, Northwestern University Interdepartmental Neuroscience Program, Department of Neurobiology and Physiology, and Northwestern School of Continuing Studies.

The Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 6.75 AMA *PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™]. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

For more information and to register, please visit:

<http://www.womenshealth.northwestern.edu/conferences/index.html>

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