Hidden Science: The Complexity of Determining What Causes Breast Cancer

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Q&A Feature

Please submit questions via the Q&A Feature

Please send your questions to All Panelists
POLL #1

Are you attending this Web Forum:

a. Individually
b. In a group of 2-5 people
c. In a group of 6-10 people
d. In a group of more than 10 people
Hidden Science: The Complexity of Determining What Causes Breast Cancer

July 7, 2011
11:00 AM to 12:30 PM Pacific
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Mary Pittman, DrPH
President and CEO
Public Health Institute

Mary A. Pittman, DrPH, is chief executive officer and president of the Public Health Institute (PHI) in Oakland, California. A nationally recognized leader in improving community health, addressing health inequities among vulnerable people and promoting quality of care, Pittman became in 2008 PHI’s second CEO and president since its founding in 1964. She has guided the development of a strategic plan that builds on existing PHI program strengths to achieve greater impact on public policy and practice in public health both in the U.S. and globally. PHI’s areas of focus include childhood obesity, prevention, the implementation of health reform, global health, the impacts of climate change on public health, the social determinants of health, the role of technology in health, increasing advocacy for the public’s health, and health workforce shortages. Under her leadership, PHI has been recognized as one of the 50 best nonprofit workplaces in the nation.

Pittman previously headed the Health Research and Educational Trust, an affiliate of the American Hospital Association, and the California Association of Public Hospitals. She received her doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley, and master’s degrees from UC Berkeley in public health and city and regional planning.

Website: [www.phi.org](http://www.phi.org)
Barbara Cohn, PhD
Director
Child Health and Development Studies

Barbara A. Cohn is an epidemiologist who earned her doctorate at the University of California at Berkeley in 1984. She founded the Center for Research on Women's and Children's Health in 1991 and became co-director of the Child Health and Development Studies in 1997 and the director in 2001.

The Child Health and Development Studies has followed 15,000 families for more than forty years and is continuing with new studies of how events even before birth influence health across the lifespan. This study enrolled women during their pregnancies and has contributed important information to the determinants of health and illness in mothers and their children. The study has now become a resource for understanding the effects of early life on adult health and for intergenerational studies. Cohn's current research examines how pregnancy protects against breast cancer and the health effects of exposures to hormonally active environmental chemicals. She is also investigating the effects of exposures to environmental chemicals before birth on the reproductive health of CHDS daughters and sons who are now having children of their own.

Website: www.chdstudies.org
POLL #2

The professional sector I represent is:

a. Research  
b. Policy/Advocacy  
c. Academia  
d. Health Care Provider  
e. Philanthropy/Funding Agencies  
f. Government  
g. Non-Profit  
h. Other
POLL #3

How familiar are you with the risks, exposures, and disease mechanisms that may be associated with breast cancer?

a. Not at all familiar
b. Somewhat familiar
c. Fairly familiar
d. Extremely familiar
POLL #4

How familiar are you with the controversies in current breast cancer research?

a. Not at all familiar
b. Somewhat familiar
c. Fairly familiar
d. Extremely familiar
Q&A Feature

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Learn more about the Child Health and Development Studies (CHDS) at:

www.chd studies.org