

U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Announces Appointments of New Chair and Vice Chair

WASHINGTON, D.C. – May 8, 2017 – The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (Task Force) today announced the appointments of David C. Grossman, M.D., M.P.H., as chair and past member Douglas K. Owens, M.D., M.S., as vice chair. Susan J. Curry, Ph.D., will remain in her role as vice chair. Dr. Grossman will assume the role of chair from Kirsten Bibbins-Domingo, Ph.D., M.D., M.A.S., who will now serve as the immediate past chair.

“I would like to congratulate Dr. Grossman on his appointment as chair,” said Dr. Bibbins-Domingo. “He has a long history with the Task Force, a deep understanding of the Task Force’s work, commitment to evidence-based medicine, and dedication to pediatric and family health. He has contributed much to the Task Force as a member and vice chair. I am confident that he will continue to provide strong leadership in this new role.”

Dr. Grossman was previously appointed vice chair in March 2015 and served as a member of the Task Force from January 2008 to December 2013. He is a board-certified pediatrician recognized for his research on clinical preventive services, injury prevention, and Native American health. He is a senior investigator at the Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute in Seattle, where he is also a pediatrician at Kaiser Permanente Washington and a senior medical director for the Washington Permanente Medical Group. Dr. Grossman is also professor of health services and adjunct professor of pediatrics at the University of Washington.

Past member Dr. Owens, who served on the Task Force from January 2012 to December 2015, will be rejoining the Task Force as vice chair.

“We are honored to welcome Dr. Owens back to the Task Force in a leadership role,” said chair Dr. Grossman. “His experience in guideline development, both with the Task Force and partner organizations, and his work in evidence-based medicine and clinical decisionmaking are valuable additions to our leadership team.”

Dr. Owens is a general internist at the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System, where he is also associate director of the Center for Innovation to Implementation. He is the Henry J. Kaiser, Jr., professor at Stanford University, where he is also a professor of medicine, health research and policy (by courtesy), and management science and engineering (by courtesy), as well as a senior fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies. Dr. Owens is director of the Center for Primary Care and Outcomes Research in the Department of Medicine at Stanford and the Center for Health Policy in the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies.

The Task Force also recognizes the work of Dr. Bibbins-Domingo as chair.

“On behalf of the Task Force, I would like to thank Dr. Bibbins-Domingo for her outstanding service as a member, vice chair, and chair,” said Dr. Curry. “We deeply appreciate her leadership not only in developing rigorous evidence-based recommendations, but also in advancing our work in areas fundamental to our mission. She has been central to the Task Force’s efforts to address health disparities and work with partner organizations on important prevention priorities.”

The Task Force is an independent, volunteer panel of national experts in prevention and evidence-based medicine. The Task Force works to improve the health of all Americans by making evidence-based recommendations about clinical preventive services, such as screenings, counseling services, and preventive medicines. More information on the Task Force is available at www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org.

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