

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

The Task Force is pleased to announce updates to its leadership and a new member

WASHINGTON, D.C. – March 12, 2018 – The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (Task Force) announced today the appointments of Susan J. Curry, Ph.D., as chair; Alex H. Krist, M.D., M.P.H., as vice chair; and John B. Wong, M.D., as a new member. Douglas K. Owens, M.D., M.S., will remain in his role as vice chair. Dr. Curry will assume the role of chair from David C. Grossman, M.D., M.P.H., who will now serve as the immediate past chair.

“I congratulate Dr. Curry on her appointment as chair of the Task Force,” said Dr. Grossman. “Her long history with the Task Force as a member and vice chair, profound understanding of the Task Force’s work, and commitment to evidence-based medicine have already contributed much to the Task Force. I look forward to seeing her strong leadership in this new role as chair.”

Dr. Curry was previously appointed vice chair in March 2016 and served as a member of the Task Force from January 2009 to December 2014. She is interim executive vice president and provost of the University of Iowa, where she is also a distinguished professor of health management and policy in the College of Public Health. She is also a member of the National Academy of Medicine. Dr. Curry’s many professional activities include past service as dean of the University of Iowa College of Public Health from 2008 to 2017, vice chair of the board of directors of the Truth Initiative, and member of the National Cancer Institute’s board of scientific advisors.

Dr. Krist, who has been a member of the Task Force since January 2015, will now serve as vice chair.

“The Task Force is pleased to have Dr. Krist assume this leadership role as vice chair,” said Dr. Curry. “His experience with the Task Force and work in evidence-based medicine and clinical decisionmaking are important additions to our leadership team.”

Dr. Krist is a professor of family medicine and population health at Virginia Commonwealth University and an active clinician and teacher at the Fairfax Family Practice Residency. He is co-director of the Virginia Ambulatory Care Outcomes Research Network and director of community-engaged research at the Center for Clinical and Translational Research. He is also a fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians.

Dr. Wong is the newest member of the Task Force and joined in March 2018.

“Dr. Wong is uniquely qualified and will bring a diverse clinical and research background to the work of the Task Force,” said Dr. Curry. “Dr. Wong is a practicing clinician who provides primary care services in his community and has conducted important work in patient engagement.”

Dr. Wong is chief of the Division of Clinical Decision Making and a primary care physician in the Department of Medicine at Tufts Medical Center and professor of medicine at the Tufts University School of Medicine. He is also director of comparative effectiveness research for the Tufts Clinical Translational Science Institute and a professor of medicine in the Tufts University Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences.

The Task Force also recognizes Dr. Grossman's tenure on the Task Force, including his leadership as chair.

"The Task Force is deeply grateful to Dr. Grossman for nearly a decade of service as chair, vice chair, and member," said Dr. Curry. "His leadership in the development of our evidence-based recommendations has been essential to the Task Force's efforts to address health disparities and elevate prevention priorities, and we thank him for his service."

The Task Force is an independent, volunteer panel of national experts in prevention and evidence-based medicine that works to improve the health of all Americans by making evidence-based recommendations about clinical preventive services such as screenings, counseling services, and preventive medications.

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