AMWA Sex and Gender Health Collaborative

Sex and Gender Based Medicine

Defining Sex and Gender

Sex
Biological differences between females and males, such as endogenous hormonal profiles, chromosomes, and sex organs.

Gender
Socially constructed and enacted roles and behaviors which occur in a historical and cultural context and vary across societies and over time.

Differences in Medication Response

Several studies show that there are sex and gender differences in pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, dosage, effectiveness, and side effects.

According to a 2001 report released by the US Government Accountability Office, 80% of drugs withdrawn from the market between 1997 and 2001 were primarily due to adverse effects found in women rather than men.

Differences in Disease

Numerous scientific findings and health databases reveal sex and gender specific differences in disease symptom presentation, pathophysiology, incidence, and severity.

Examples include differences in symptom presentation of heart attack, diabetes mellitus, cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, Alzheimer’s disease, depression, and alcohol use disorder.

To Learn More or Get Involved
Visit us at amwa-doc.org/sghc or email us at sghcstudents@amwa-doc.org

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