AUGS Applauds New Executive Order Elevating Women's Health Research

The American Urogynecologic Society (AUGS) welcomes the Administration's Executive Order, *Advancing Women's Health to Improve Outcomes in All Phases of Life*, which directs the establishment of a new Women's Health Division within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and creates a White House Women's Health Task Force to coordinate federal efforts. The order aims to strengthen research, improve prevention and treatment, and translate scientific discoveries into clinical care for women at every stage of life.

As the leading professional organization dedicated to caring for women with pelvic floor disorders, AUGS has long advocated for a stronger federal research enterprise that extends beyond maternity and reproductive care. This includes greater investment in research on conditions affecting aging women, including pelvic floor disorders (i.e., urinary incontinence, fecal incontinence, prolapse, etc.) and other often-overlooked health challenges that profoundly affect quality of life, independence, and healthy aging.

“Recognizing that women's health extends throughout the lifespan is an important and welcome step forward,” said Emily Lukacz, MD, President of AUGS. “For too long, many conditions affecting women have received too little attention in research priorities and funding decisions. We are encouraged by this commitment to advancing women's health science and translating research into better patient care.”

AUGS particularly welcomes the order’s emphasis on understudied conditions and women’s inclusion in clinical research. Pelvic floor disorders can have a profound effect on women’s health, daily activities, independence, and quality of life, yet these conditions have too often remained outside the mainstream women’s health research agenda. With a strong research agenda and a longstanding dedication to science, education, and advocacy, AUGS stands ready to work with policymakers, researchers, and federal agencies to translate this Administration priority into concrete research investments and other policy efforts that could improve health outcomes for women of all ages.