

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

Approved by the Regents
May 20, 2010

Amy K. Alderman, M.D., assistant professor of surgery, Department of Surgery, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of surgery, with tenure, Department of Surgery, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

M.P.H.	2002	University of Michigan
M.D.	1996	University of Alabama
B.A.	1992	Birmingham-Southern College

Professional Record:

2004–present	Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of Michigan
2000–2007	Research Investigator, Ann Arbor Veterans Administration

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Alderman consistently receives ‘superior’ scores on her teaching evaluations by the surgical residents, who note that “her commitment to resident education is unparalleled” and that “Dr. Alderman is quite possibly the best attending surgeon with whom I have worked.” She has contributed strongly to graduates from the University of Michigan residency program, becoming the clinical and academic leaders in plastic surgery across the U.S. In research, Dr. Alderman has served as a mentor for a steady stream of residents and fellows, including an international fellow from India. Three of her residents were general surgery residents who decided to pursue a career in plastic surgery. Her mentorship in health services research and breast surgery outcomes facilitated the residents and fellows to publish 16 peer-reviewed manuscripts, give 36 local and national research presentations, and receive seven research awards, including the Crudup Award, the most prestigious research award that can be given to a graduating surgical resident at the University of Michigan.

Research: Dr. Alderman is a nationally recognized researcher in health services research, specifically related to disparities in post-mastectomy breast cancer care. She was the first plastic surgeon in the country to receive a career development award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and she also serves as the principal investigator on a National Institute of Medicine R-21 award aimed at understanding decision-making in breast cancer reconstruction. She has published in high impact journals including *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, and *Cancer*. Nationally, she has been asked to participate on committees aimed at tracking outcomes and improving care in plastic surgery. Her most recent work with the Breast Surgery Taskforce has resulted in a national campaign by the American

Society of Plastic Surgeons called “Choices” that is directed at improving the general public’s knowledge of breast reconstruction options. Dr. Alderman is a frequently invited speaker at national meetings and was invited two years in a row to be one of six speakers at a quality summit to present to the plastic surgery national leadership.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Alderman AK, Hawley ST, Janz NK, Mujahid MS, Morrow M, Hamilton AS, Graph J, Katz SJ: Racial/ethnic disparities in the use of post-mastectomy breast reconstruction: results from a population-based study. *Journal of Clinical Oncology* 27:5325-5330, 2009.

Alderman AK, Hawley ST, Waljee JA, Mujahid M, Morrow M, Katz SJ: Understanding the impact of breast reconstruction on the surgical decision-making process for breast cancer. *Cancer* 112:489-494, 2008.

Alderman AK, Hawley S, Waljee JF, Morrow M, Katz SJ: Correlates of referral practices of general surgeons to plastic surgeons for mastectomy reconstruction. *Cancer* 109:1715-1720, 2007.

Alderman A, Wei Y, Birkmeyer JD: Use of breast cancer reconstruction following the Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act. *JAMA* 295:387-388, 2006.

Alderman AK, McMahon L, Wilkins EG: The national utilization of immediate and early delayed breast reconstruction & the impact of sociodemographic factors. *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery* 11:695-703, 2003.

Service: On a national level, Dr. Alderman has been an active leader in the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) and the Plastic Surgery Educational Foundation (PSEF). She serves on important committees, including the Clinical Trials Network Committee that focuses on promoting high-level clinical research in plastic surgery and is responsible for fund-raising, design, implementation and oversight of new projects. At the University of Michigan, she is the director of the Plastic Surgery Section’s Cosmetic Surgery Program. Her responsibilities have involved expanding the supporting personnel, developing a marketing strategy, creation of a University of Michigan cosmetic web-site, and clinic redesign to better accommodate cosmetic patients. She has been engaged in formal LEAN initiatives in the plastic surgery patient clinic, and process improvement projects aimed at reducing surgical-site infections in breast patients.

Dr. Alderman has an extremely busy breast surgery practice at the University of Michigan and is an active member of the Breast Care Taskforce in the Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Alderman’s clinical practice has been recognized for the quality of her clinical care and for the cutting-edge surgical procedures she has brought to the University of Michigan, including vertical reduction mammoplasty and perforator flaps for breast reconstruction. Her focus on patient-centered care has resulted in consistently outstanding patient satisfaction scores. In addition to her dedicated clinical care, she has also worked to produce patient educational materials and shared medical appointments for the breast surgery population.

External Review:

Reviewer A: "Her meaningful research on the cutting edge technologies of breast reconstructive surgery fill an important niche that is sure to remain in high demand as new surgical technologies are developed and disseminated. This timely work has earned her a national reputation in the field..."

Reviewer B: "Dr. Alderman has been 'noticed' by senior leaders on the national level and at our most recent annual meeting had 3 invited panel presentations, a highly unusual occurrence for someone so early in their career."

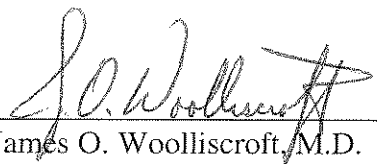
Reviewer C: "Her work has had significant impact on highlighting the disparity of healthcare options and coverage for various sociodemographic groups in the United States. I would rank Dr. Alderman in the top five percent of academic plastic surgeons in the United States...Dr. Alderman will be a major leader in plastic surgery in the future."

Reviewer D: "...Dr. Alderman has identified a niche area in which she as been both productive and thoughtful. She has identified herself as an expert nationally regarding issues related particularly to breast reconstruction, and is a leader in this field nationally. I am not aware of anyone in her peer aged group who...has achieved this level of national recognition."

Reviewer E: "Amy is not only a superb physician, she is an excellent teacher, academic leader in reconstructive surgery, and a role model for all plastic surgeons dedicated to teaching and advancing the art and science of plastic surgery. Dr. Alderman is unique in plastic surgery in that she has become the leading plastic surgeon in the United States performing quality outcome data based on clinical studies in breast reconstructive surgery."

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Alderman is on the forefront of outcomes and health services research in surgery, with a focus on disparities in surgical breast cancer care. Her consistent productivity and the quality of her work have deservedly earned her a national reputation as a researcher, teacher, and clinician. She has served as a leader at both the University of Michigan and in multiple national organizations. It is with great pride that I recommend Amy K. Alderman, M.D. as a candidate for promotion to associate professor, with tenure, in the Department of Surgery.



James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.
Dean
Lyle C. Roll Professor of Medicine

May 2010