

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
MEDICAL SCHOOL  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

Catherine H. Van Poznak, M.D., assistant professor of internal medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

M.D.	1995	Cornell University
B.S.	1980	University of Maine

Professional Record:

2006-present	Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2001-2006	Instructor in Medicine, Joan & Sanford I. Weill Medical College of Cornell University

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Van Poznak is an enthusiastic educator at the University of Michigan, dedicating no less than 100 hours per year to the training of medical students and residents. During her inpatient hospital rotations, she teaches state of the art biologic and social sciences and doctor-patient relationship skills. Dr. Van Poznak is also involved in teaching undergraduate students through the University of Michigan Undergraduate Research Program in which she mentors, trains and supervises students through research projects. Her work with third and fourth year medical students allows her to hone the students' skills in obtaining medical histories and giving oral presentations, and to nurture lifelong learning skills and medical ethics. In 2011, she received an excellent teaching mean score of 4.75 out of 5. Dr. Van Poznak contributes to the education of medical residents by refining their interviewing skills, physical examination techniques, data assessments, presentation competence and decision making processes. Dr. Van Poznak also trains and mentors fellows rotating through her clinic, through conferences, and through one-on-one counseling on career development and discussions of bone related research projects as well as the management of breast cancer.

Research: Dr. Van Poznak's clinical and translational research focuses on breast cancer and cancer therapy as they relate to bone. The goals of her research are to maintain bone integrity in those affected by cancer, which includes investigation of bone-related outcomes in both the adjuvant (curative) and metastatic (palliative) setting. In addition to bone specific research, Dr. Van Poznak is actively involved in large scale, national and international clinical trials aimed at improving therapeutic interventions for breast cancer. She has been the principal investigator of 18 Institutional Review Board approved studies at the University of Michigan examining the management of bone health in those affected by cancer. Dr. Van Poznak has a record of more than fifty peer-reviewed publications in addition to her numerous abstracts, preliminary communications and clinical papers. This year alone, she has served as a journal/abstract reviewer for *Breast Cancer Research and Treatment*, *Clinical Endocrinology*, *Expert Opinion on Clinical Pharmacology*, *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research*, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, *Journal of Dental Research*, and *The Oncologist*. In addition, she currently serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*. Dr. Van

Poznak continues to develop new projects along these lines and she is bridging studies from her current K23 Training Grant by writing grant proposals at the R21 and R01 levels.

#### Recent and Significant Publications:

Van Poznak C, Cross SS, Saggese M, Hudis C, Panageas KS, Norton L, Coleman RE, Holen I: Expression of osteoprotegerin (OPG), TNF-related apoptosis inducing ligand (TRAIL) and receptor activator of nuclear factor KB ligand (RANKL) in human breast tumors. *J Clin Path* 59:56-63, 2006.

Lu X, Wang Q, Hu G, Van Poznak C, Fleisher M, Reiss M, Massague J, Kang Y: ADAMTS1 and MMP1 proteolytically engage EGF-like ligands in an osteolytic signaling cascade for bone metastasis. *Genes & Development* 23:1882-1894, 2009.

Van Poznak C, Hannon RA, Mackey JR, Campone M, Apffelsaedt JP, Clack G, Barlow D, Makris A, Eastell R: Prevention of aromatase inhibitor-induced bone loss using risenedronate: the SABRE trial. *J Clin Oncology* 28:967-975, 2010.

Van Poznak C, Temin S, Yee GC, Janjan NA, Barlow WE, Biermann JS, Bosserman LD, Geoghegan C, Hillner BE, Theriault RL, Zuckerman DS, Von Roenn JH: American Society of Clinical Oncology executive summary of the clinical practice guideline update on the role of bone-modifying agents in metastatic breast cancer. *J Clin Oncol* 20:1221-1227, 2011.

Morris P, Hudis C, Carrasquillo J, Larson S, Grewal R, Van Poznak C: Bone scans, bisphosphonates and a lack of acute changes within the mandible. *J Oral Maxillofac Surg* 69:114-119, 2011.

Service: Dr. Van Poznak is an incredibly active clinician in the Comprehensive Cancer Center's Breast Care Center. For the past two years, she has been named one of the "Best Doctors in America" by Best Doctors Inc., Polling and Research. In addition to her clinical, research and teaching responsibilities, she serves on numerous institutional committees including the Spinal Cord Compression Ad-Hoc Committee, the Comprehensive Cancer Center Protocol Review Committee, and the Spinal Tumor Board, as well as the chair of the University of Michigan Brain Metastases Working Group, to name a few. Dr. Van Poznak is equally as active on the national level, serving as a member of multiple committees with the American Society of Clinical Oncology, in addition to membership on three committees with SWOG. She also serves on the board of directors for the Paget Foundation and for the Bone and Cancer Foundation.

#### External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Van Poznak is best known for her work related to bone health and breast cancer. She is regarded as one of the experts in the field in the United States at the present time....Her national reputation is especially substantiated by several accomplishments. First she served as the primary author of the definitive practice guidelines on the role of bone-modifying agents in treatment of metastatic breast cancer....In addition she is sought after as a speaker."

Reviewer B: "Dr. Van Poznak has worked with some of the best known translational investigators in the breast cancer world. Her research focus since the earliest phase of her career has been bone metabolism, osteoporosis and bone metastases. She is one of a handful of medical oncologists who

focuses on these issues and she has risen to the top of the thought leaders group by being selected to chair the ASCO guideline committee for bone modifying agents.”

Reviewer C: “...Dr. Van Poznak has been most successful since her move to Michigan. She has continued an excellent publication record, received grant funding for her project and continued to be recognized by oncologists as a leader in the field of bone disease. She would undoubtedly receive promotion to Associate Professor at my institution.”

Reviewer D: “She has been extremely active in clinical research trials for breast cancer as well as bone and bone marrow metastases. She has given numerous presentations and has clearly had a focused and productive career in these areas.”

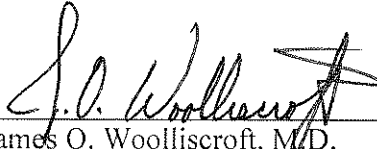
Reviewer E: “She is an active clinical investigator on numerous funded projects, with a thematic focus on supportive care and bone mineral metabolisms in the context of breast cancer. Her expertise in this area and resume of accomplishments that have affected standards of care rank her very highly among her peers at this stage of her career.”

Reviewer F: “In my view, Dr. Van Poznak has established a clear niche for herself in the world of breast medical oncology. She is one of a handful of clinical investigators in the United States who are recognized as experts in the management of bone complications in breast cancer. I have every reason to believe that she will continue to build upon her success in the years ahead.”

Reviewer G: “Cathy has now established herself as a national expert on bone-related complications associated with cancer and its treatment, and I am impressed by her leadership skills that culminated on an ASCO Clinical Practice Guideline document, by her meticulous approach to research questions, by her collaborative personality, by her commitment to excellence, and by her communication skills.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Van Poznak’s dedication to the education and training of medical students, residents and fellows is exemplary. In addition, her clinical expertise in the management of bone complications in breast cancer and her ability to secure funding for her research is commendable. She embodies the missions and goals of the University of Michigan Medical School and Health System and for these reasons, we recommend Catherine H. Van Poznak, M.D. for promotion to associate professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School.

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

May 2013