



# 2010 OUTSTANDING WOMEN IN TEXAS GOVERNMENT

## Nomination Form

Please print clearly or type in the spaces below.

### Category:

(Choose One Only)

- Outstanding Professional Development
- Outstanding Management
- Outstanding Contribution
- Outstanding Community Involvement

### Deadline:

5 p.m. May 2, 2010

### Checklist:

- The nomination form is signed by the agency's director or board member
- A narrative statement of up four pages is included
- The submission includes four copies of all materials including the original signed nomination form.

### Nominee Information

Name Eugenie S. Kleinerman, M.D.  
 Contact Phone (713) 792-8110  
 Mailing Address U.T.M.D. Anderson Cancer Ctr., 1515 Holcombe Blvd.  
 City Houston State Texas ZIP 77030  
 E-Mail ekleiner@mdanderson.org  
 State Classification Title Faculty  
 Job Title Professor and Head, Division of Pediatrics

### Agency Information

Agency Univeristy of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center  
 Agency Contact David B. Coe  
 Contact Phone 713-792-6021  
 Address 1515 Holcombe Boulevard  
 City Houston  
 E-Mail dcoe@mdanderson.org

### Certification

John Mendelsohn 4/30/10  
 Signature of agency director or board member (required) Date  
 Print or type name John Mendelsohn  
 Title President

Submit four copies, including the original, of the completed nomination form and the narrative statement to:

State Agency Council  
 Post Office Box 13354  
 Austin, Texas 78711

For Overnight or hand deliveries only:  
 c/o Governor's Commission for Women  
 1100 San Jacinto  
 Room E2.258  
 Austin, Texas 78701

The State Agency Council will not return materials submitted as part of a nomination. Letters of recommendation will not be accepted.

**2010 OUTSTANDING WOMEN IN TEXAS GOVERNMENT  
NOMINATION IN OUTSTANDING MANAGEMENT**

**Eugenie Kleimerman, MD**

**The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center**

Eugenie S. Kleinerman, M.D., is a renowned pediatric oncologist and scientist who has pioneered innovative research and therapies in pediatric oncology for 35 years. Her translational research has improved long-term survival rates in young bone cancer patients for the first time in more than 20 years. Aside from her lengthy list of academic contributions, though, it's Kleinerman's passion, dedication and ability to lead by example that have earned her international recognition amongst her peers, faculty, staff and patients.

**A Leader From the Start**

Kleinerman has set her self apart from her peers since an early age, when women were not encouraged to pursue medical degrees. She was one of only 15 women in her medical class at Duke University. Despite the gender biases that existed in the medical field during that time, Kleinerman made a name for herself in medical school earning her first award of many, the "Sandoz Award for Meritorious Original Student Research."

Upon graduation, Kleinerman completed her pediatric residency at the Children's Hospital National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., followed by a fellowship at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, MD. She was a senior investigator at the NCI-Frederick Cancer Research facility for three years before being recruited to The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center.

Kleinerman joined M. D. Anderson in 1984 as assistant professor in the Department of Cancer Biology and the Division of Pediatrics. Through her leadership skills and research accomplishments both in the clinic and in the lab, Kleinerman was appointed head of the Children's Cancer Hospital at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in 2001, becoming the first and only female division head in the history of M. D. Anderson.

**A Pioneer in Pediatric Cancer Research**

Kleinerman has an international reputation in sarcoma research and the development of novel therapeutic approaches for this disease. Through research, which has been funded by the NCI for more than 20 years, she identified a new immunotherapy, liposome-encapsulated muramyltripeptide (L-MTP). Kleinerman led the development and testing of L-MTP over two decades, which resulted in the drug's approval by the European Union in 2009. This marked a milestone for drug development in pediatric oncology. In addition to clinical research, she is pursuing novel genetic therapies to combat osteosarcoma and Ewing's sarcoma metastases. Kleinerman has designed an aerosol delivery system with collaborators at the Baylor College of Medicine to place the various gene therapies into the lungs.

Dr. Kleinerman has shown selfless determination in bringing new treatments and new hope for children with cancer, singlehandedly championing the development of L-MTP, the first new therapy for osteosarcoma in 25 years. Dr. Kleinerman has built the

Children's Cancer Hospital into one of the very best places to be a pediatric oncologist, creating the environment that is allowing us to be leaders in our field. I could not imagine anything better than working with her.

- Dennis Hughes, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Kleinerman has authored more than 150 articles and 21 book chapters. She received the Texas Business and Professional Women's award for her research achievements in 1999, the Distinguished Medical Alumnus Award from Duke University in 2006, and the Distinguished Alumni Award from Washington University in 2010.

National recognition of her expertise in both basic and clinical research have led to appointments on several study sections for the National Institute of Health as well as an appointment on an FDA Advisory Committee.

Having successfully taken agents like L-MTP-PE from the bench to an "approved" immune therapy, it is no wonder she attracts to her lab so many pediatric hematology/oncology fellows and MD/PhD students. Her dedication to the Division of Pediatrics is non-wavering. In an effort to make Pediatrics at M.D. Anderson the best in the country by providing research-driven protocols, she has recruited top faculty, including women faculty, from around the United States and Europe.

- Laurence Cooper, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Section Chief

### **A Mentor Who Leads by Example**

Her responsibilities span clinical and research administration, training of fellows and students, and management of staff. Within these many roles she has embraced opportunities to mentor faculty, clinical fellows, research fellows, graduate students and classified staff. In all of these endeavors, she has consistently promoted women at all levels. Since taking over the Division of Pediatrics, Kleinerman has hired at least seven female faculty members, more than doubling the number of female faculty in Pediatrics. Importantly, she also works with her women faculty to retain and promote them.

Dr. Kleinerman freely shares advice and moral support. Having navigated the issues associated with succeeding in science and medicine while raising a family and keeping a healthy work/life balance, Dr. Kleinerman is in a unique position to share her experiences, which is inspiring to young women beginning their careers.

- Joya Chandra, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics

Kleinerman's hands-on, inclusive and positive management style has earned her praise from individuals throughout the institution. A recent "Upwards Evaluation" survey, in which employees had an opportunity to evaluate their leaders, revealed that Kleinerman received the highest approval rating of any senior official at M. D. Anderson. Kleinerman also serves on several leadership committees within M. D. Anderson, including the Women Faculty Program Advisory Committee, and on the boards of various community organizations.

Dr. Kleinerman supports the interests and work of her junior faculty without imposing her own ideas and agenda. She sets a high standard but encourages faculty to reach those

standards and demonstrates by example. She is truly passionate about what she does and is the hardest working advocate for our Division.

- Patrick Zweidler-McKay, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

### **An Educator at all Levels**

Despite all of her administrative duties, Kleinerman never loses site of the importance of training the next generation of pediatric oncologists and researchers. She has developed innovative programs for training physician scientists, including a six week laboratory training program for pediatric hematology/oncology fellows entering the research portion of their fellowship program. This course enables the fellows to gain basic lab skills before embarking on their formal research project. Since many fellows do not have exposure to lab techniques prior to this, the program has been a good recruiting tool and has allowed greater productivity in the lab by the fellows. This has resulted in more published abstracts and presentations at national and international meetings by fellows at the Children's Cancer Hospital.

I was the first set of clinical fellows that started with Dr. Kleinerman as a department chair in 2001. I have remained working with her as a mentor through my clinical fellowship, as a post doctoral fellow and as an instructor. Dr. Kleinerman meets all the characteristics of an outstanding mentor: an excellent advisor, a teacher, an advocate, a sponsor and a role model. Her constant motivation towards innovative ideas encourages debate to search for different approaches. Dr. Kleinerman has set the roots for many of her trainees' professional successes.

- Nancy Gordan, M.D., Pediatrics Research Instructor

Dr. Kleinerman has been an excellent mentor for me as a doctoral student. She leads by example and provides a lab environment that encourages quality research and innovation as well as scientific integrity. Dr. Kleinerman is particularly good at keeping me, as her student, focused on my research and confident in my ability to succeed. She sets boundaries that encourage success without stifling creativity. She has been an incredible role model for me both personally and professionally, as a woman with a family and a career.

- Keri Schadler Stewart, Doctoral Student in Pediatrics

As a graduate student in Dr. Kleinerman's laboratory, I have to thank my mentor for being such an amazing inspiration to me. Dr. Kleinerman is constantly encouraging me and pushing me forward. She cares for each one of us as she would her own family. She represents the ideal woman scientist and sets the threshold high for all of us following in her shoes.

- Randala Hamdan, Graduate Research Assistant

In conclusion, it is our belief that Dr. Eugenie Kleinerman, head of the Children's Cancer Hospital at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, possesses the leadership qualities and management acumen to be named the 2010 Outstanding Women in Texas Government in Management. We hope you will agree.

Submitted by: Faculty and Staff  
The Children's Cancer Hospital at  
The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Rick Perry  
Governor for the State of Texas

**FROM:** David B. Coe, M.S., M.B.A.   
Division Administrator, Pediatrics

**SUBJECT:** 2010 OUTSTANDING WOMEN IN TEXAS GOVERNMENT  
Nomination of Eugenie Kleinerman, MD  
For the Outstanding Management Award

**DATE:** April 30, 2010

On behalf of the faculty and staff at the Children's Cancer Hospital at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, please accept our nomination of Eugenie Kleinerman, MD, Head of the Division of Pediatrics and the Children's Cancer Hospital for the 2010 Outstanding Management Award.

We believe Dr. Kleinerman, "Genie" as she wants us to call her, possesses the leadership qualities and professional expertise of an effective and outstanding manager. We hope you will agree.

Thank you for your consideration.