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Shurmur said worldwide, research is starting to catch up with the gender gap in heart health. poor job of enrolling women in clinical trials for a long time In many studies that established hallmark therapies, women were only represented 25% or so. We're getting better at that. Still, rarely if ever crossing 50%,

Tyne said the Laura W. Bush Institute We are strong advocates on every level We advocate to physicians to learn new things. We advocate for women to take that information to their doctor. We also advocate nationally in organizations that try to get the word out to everyone that biological sex differences are very real.

Naegele wholeheartedly agreed. She is now assistant director of the in Lubbock and often speaks publicly about her heart health odyssey. She said both experiences have been life-changing.

hey're pretty much hand-in-hand. When I came on board with the institute, I had already had this situation with my heart disease. said, I had no idea how my story could be used to help so many women, but I shared it with a few people within our group. I have found the more I share my story, the more it's empowering both to me and to other women to realize that they can speak up and be an advocate for themselves.