Shared risk factors are believed to operate in common pathways to chronic disease, and have important implications for the prevention of cardiovascular disease (CVD), improved CVD and cancer survival, and cancer recurrence. Adverse risk factors may be pro-inflammatory (obesity, diabetes, hypertension, smoking) and/or carcinogenic through direct exposure to known carcinogens (smoking). In addition to the problem of shared risk factors, therapies used to treat breast cancer are linked with cardiovascular injury, thus increasing CVD susceptibility via the “multiple-hit” hypothesis. Breast cancer therapies that are potentially cardiotoxic include chemotherapeutic agents, radiation, and hormonal therapies. In addition to lifestyle factors such as physical activity, physical function, quality of life, and psychosocial factors play a substantial role in the etiology and progression of chronic disease. This session will include presentations that highlight these issues and outline potential approaches and solutions to the study of this complex topic. Data from the WHI will be presented to highlight these issues and present potential solutions utilized in practice. This symposium brings together researchers with expertise in survivorship, oncology, cardiology, epidemiology, and psychology to discuss the risk factors, treatments, and outcomes that are integral to the study of CVD and cancer survivorship as well as future research priorities for WHI.
References:


