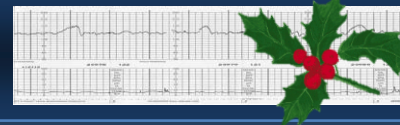


THE MONITOR



IN THIS ISSUE:

Residency Update	2
Clerkship Corner	2
Departmental News	3 - 4
Scholarly Activity	5 - 7

Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology

Department Chair

Michael Diamond, MD
Brooks Professor and Chair
Senior VP for Research, AU
Associate Dean, Research, MCG

Division Directors

Ayman Al-Hendy, MD, PhD

Translational Research

Paul Browne, MD

Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Sharad Ghamande, MD

Gynecologic Oncology

Lawrence Layman, MD

REI and Genetics

John Lue, MD

General OB/GYN

Brent Parnell, MD

FPMRS/Urogynecology

Education Directors

Erin Latif, MD

Student Clerkship Director

Chadburn Ray, MD

Residency Director

1120 15th St, BA-7300
Augusta, GA 30912
(706) 721-3591

Faculty Recognition

Congratulations!

Dr. Paul Browne
Dr. Angela Duke
Dr. Dixon Freeman
Dr. Darrell Jordan
Dr. Chadburn Ray
Dr. Bunja Rungruang



Ralph Gillies, PhD, Associate Dean for Faculty Development, announced the 2015 MCG Exemplary Teaching Award recipients in November. Award recipients were selected based on teaching excellence in either undergraduate or graduate medical education. Certificates will be presented at the MCG Faculty Senate Meeting on December 10th at noon in the Lee Auditorium on the Health Sciences campus. Each award also comes with a \$200 honorarium. Congratulations on your well-deserved recognition and thank you for your commitment to education at MCG.

On July 8, 2015, Dr. Brooks Keel was named President of GRU by the Board of Regents.

On September 15, 2015, the Board of Regents voted to rename Georgia Regents University. On December 1st, GRU officially became

Augusta University.



CLERKSHIP CORNER



The OB/GYN clerkship is in full swing with the 4th rotation group of the academic year, and 80 students across the state have successfully completed the clerkship to date. Major successes for the year include the purchase of new textbooks for each student on the clerkship to use, a newly developed online curriculum, and the introduction of a weekly state-wide academic half-day in which both on-campus and off-campus students participate interactively. Dr. Latif has also traveled to the SE, SW, and NE campuses to visit with preceptors, and a visit to the NW campus is planned in January. Three new sites have been added in Statesboro, Lagrange, and Moultrie since July. Preparation is ongoing for the upcoming LCME site visit in January, and the department has been working closely with the medical school to ensure that we are giving our students the best experience and education in OB/GYN that they could get anywhere. So, in the spirit of this season of giving thanks, we would like to give a heartfelt THANK YOU to all of you who give your time to teach our students and contribute to the success of the clerkship!

RESIDENCY UPDATE

Resident recruitment season began in October. With nearly 500 applicants for our five residency spots, our team has been very busy. Those individuals selected for interviews are some of the most highly qualified candidates from top-to-bottom in recent history. Our awesome residents have been incredibly enthusiastic preparing for interviews, hosting dinners for the candidates before each session. We certainly appreciate the efforts of all residents, faculty, and staff involved with recruitment. Special thanks to Ms. Kathy Kline, Residency Coordinator, for her amazing efforts each week. Also, thanks to Mr. Chip Kirksey for giving his valuable time to tour our candidates around Augusta. We anticipate another great class this year on Match Day!



Our interns are preparing for the international rotations to CerviCusco in Cusco, Peru beginning in January. Established in 2012, the Global Women's Health Program has been a great success thanks to the support of the department, institution, and generous philanthropy. Special thanks to Dr. Wallace Mays of Americus, GA for his amazing generosity over many years.

We wish safe travels to our students on the interview trail. Happy Holidays! *Charles B. Reynolds*

JOIN US ON DECEMBER 16TH FOR OB/GYN GRAND ROUNDS

4th floor Surgery Amphitheater, 7:30 AM



BARBARA S. LEVY, MD
VICE PRESIDENT, HEALTH POLICY

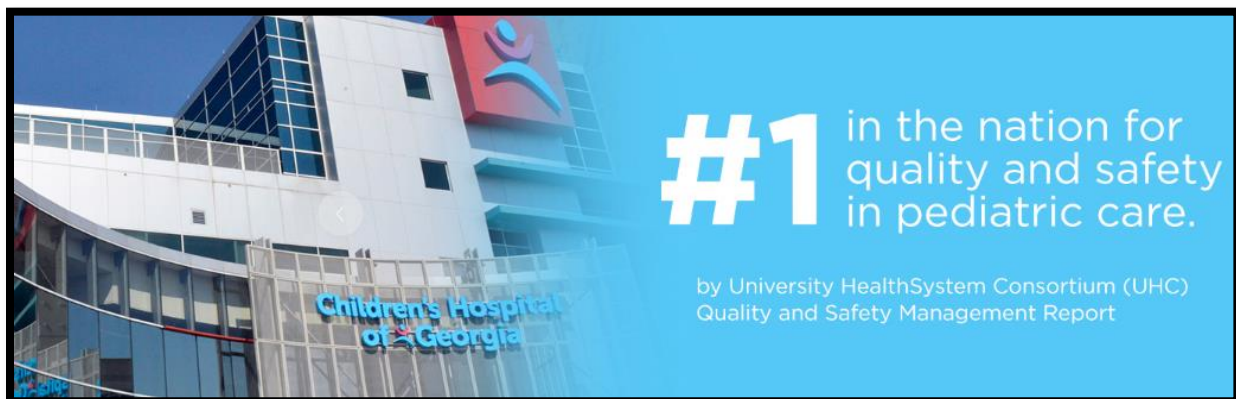


Dr. Barbara S. Levy is the Vice President, Health Policy. Dr. Levy also supervises the Voluntary Review of Quality of Care program, the Safety Certification for Outpatient Practice Excellence in Women's Health (SCOPE) program, and the Office of Global Women's Health program. Before joining ACOG, Dr. Levy was in private ob-gyn practice and medical director of the Women's Health and Breast Center and Women's and Children's Services for the Franciscan Health System in Tacoma, Washington. She has published and co-authored more than 65 studies and articles related to her primary research interests: hysterectomy, endoscopic surgery, pelvic pain, surgical outcomes, and physician payment policy. Dr. Levy graduated magna cum laude with an undergraduate degree in psychology from Princeton University. She received her medical degree from the University of California, San Diego, followed by an internship and residency in ob-gyn at University of Oregon Health Sciences Center (now Oregon Health & Sciences University) in Portland.

OB/GYN Grand Rounds is available as a live webinar.

CME credit is available. Join by using this link:

<https://lecture.gru.edu/ess/portal/section/4c8e52f1-c82d-4e13-a9ee-6331fe3730e6>



We congratulate our OB/GYN faculty as part of the CHOG family of providers, best in the UHC!

Women's Reproductive Health Research (WRHR) Career Development Scholar Awards (K12)

The Augusta University Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology announces the first competition for early career researchers through its WRHR Career Development Scholar Awards. The WRHR awards will promote the performance of research and transfer of findings that will benefit the health of women. This will be accomplished by supporting the research career development of obstetrician-gynecologists.

Eligible candidates are obstetrician gynecologists who have recently completed postgraduate clinical training in obstetrics and gynecology or who are in their final research year of subspecialty fellowship training, and are committed to launching an independent research career in women's reproductive health. Applicants must be within six years of research training experience beyond their last doctoral degree.

Applicants should be US citizens, non-citizen nationals, or individuals lawfully admitted for permanent residence at the time of award. Individuals must hold a MD or DO degree; have completed postgraduate residency training in obstetrics and gynecology; be able to devote at least 75% effort to research career development; and cannot have been a PD/PI on a NIH R01, R29, U01/U10, subproject of a P01 or individual mentored or non-mentored career development award (e.g. a K award).

This award will provide scholar support for 2-5 years. Salary support and limited funding for supplies, training, and travel to advance the career and research career of the Scholars will be provided (\$125,000 annually). Mentorship will be required for every WRHR scholar.

Please welcome our new Department Administrator, Candy M. Harper, CPA. She joins us from Dayton, Ohio following 17 years of progressive employment at Wright State, most recently serving as Executive Director of Revenue Cycle and Finance.

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

Fall Presentations from the Department (Bold)

Abusamaan MS, Fletcher NM, Saed MG, **Al-Hendy A, Diamond MP**, Berman J, Saed GM: Myeloperoxidase Serves as a Redox Switch that Regulates Apoptosis in Human Leiomyomas. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Bolnick A, Thakur M, Raju R, Abuzeid O, Dai J, Puscheck EE, **Diamond MP**, Abuzeid MI. Hormonal Concentrations in Pregnant vs Not Pregnant Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome Patients Undergoing IVF. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Brakta S, Shalaby SM, Diamond MP, Zimmerman A, Helwa I, Liu Y, **Mohamed SA, Gavrilova-Jordan L, Al-Hendy A**. Exosomes from Hypoxia-Driven Human Fibroid Stem Cells Accelerate Tumor Growth. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Brakta S, Mas A, Diamond MP, Shalaby SM, Al-Hendy A. The Ontogeny of Myometrial Stem Cells in OCT4-GFP Transgenic Mice. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Brakta S, Lizneva D, Walker W, Mykhalchenko K, Diamond M, Azziz R: NIH Funding for the Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) Research in the USA. Androgen Excess Society Meeting, Siracusa, Sicily, Italy, October 2015.

Brakta S, Lizneva D, Walker W, Azziz R: Evaluation of NIH Funding for the Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) Research in the USA. The Androgen Excess and PCOS Society 13th Annual Meeting 2015.

Christianson MS, Legro R, Jin S, Eisenberg E, **Diamond MP**, Hansen KR, Vitek W, Styer AK, Casson PR, Coutifaris C, Christman GM, Alvero R, Puscheck EE, Christy A, Zhang H, Polotsky AJ, Santoro N. Utility of Sonohysterography for Tubal Patency Assessment in the Pregnancy in Polycystic Ovary Syndrome II Trial. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Chuang TY, Wu HL, Gamboa GM, **Azziz R, Chen YH**: TNF-alpha reduced GLUT4 protein expression via activation of ERK 1/2 in PCOS and non-PCOS adipocytes. Androgen Excess Society Meeting, Siracusa, Sicily, Italy, October 2015.

Cinderella M, **Browne P**: A 26-year-old Female with Implantation of Pregnancy into Prior Cesarean Scar. 1st Place Winner in the Division of Case Studies Poster Presentations at the 2015 Medical Association of Georgia 161st House of Delegates meeting, October 17-18, 2015, Savannah, GA.

Fletcher NM, Saed MG, Neubauer BR, Abusamaan MS, **Al-Hendy A, Diamond MP**, Berman J, Saed GM: Uterine Fibroids are Characterized by an Altered Redox Balance, Favoring a Pro-Oxidant State. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Fletcher NM, Saed MG, Neubauer BR, Abu-Soud HM, Awonuga A, **Diamond MP**, Saed GM. Shifting anaerobic to aerobic metabolism stimulates apoptosis in adhesion fibroblasts through the modulation the cellular redox homeostasis. The 71st American Society for Reproductive Medicine Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD October 17-21, 2015.

Halder SK, Elam LA, Laknaur A, Diamond MP, Al-Hendy A: Introduction of Exon 2 Mutant MED12 Gene Triggers Activation of Wnt/ β -Catenin Signaling in Normal Human Uterine Smooth Muscle Cells. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015. (Oral Presentation)

Hansen KR, He AW, Styer AK, Butts S, Engmann L, **NICHDs Reproductive Medicine Network.** Predictors of Pregnancy and Live-Birth in Couples with Unexplained Infertility Following Superovulation-Intrauterine Insemination.

Khater MK, **Brakta S, Shalaby SM,** El-Husseine H, **Diamond M, Al-Hendy A.** A Novel Diagnostic Molecular Bioimaging Tool to Discriminate Between Uterine Leiomyosarcoma versus Leiomyoma. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Labonne JDJ, **Layman LC, Kim HG:** Two microdeletions that segregate independently in a family, suggesting three candidate genes for autism and motor delay at 12q12 and two candidate genes for cerebral palsy at Xp22.13. American Society of Human Genetics, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Lizneva D, Kirubakaran R, Mykhalchenko K, Suturina L, Galina C, **Jordan L, Diamond MP, Azziz R:** Phenotypes in Women with Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) Identified in Clinical vs. Unselected Populations from Different Geographical Regions. The Androgen Excess and PCOS Society 13th Annual Meeting 2015.

Lizneva D, Kirubakaran R, Mykhalchenko K, Suturina L, Galina C, **Jordan L, Diamond MP, Azziz R:** Phenotypes and Body Mass in Women with PCOS Identified in Clinical vs Unselected Populations: Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. The Androgen Excess and PCOS Society 13th Annual Meeting 2015.

Lizneva D, Kirubakaran R, Mykhalchenko K, Suturina L, Galina C, **Jordan L, Diamond MP, Azziz R:** Assessing the Quality of Reporting of the Phenotype of the Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) in Observational Studies. The Androgen Excess and PCOS Society 13th Annual Meeting 2015.

Mas A, Elam L, Walker C, Simon C, **Diamond MP,** Thompson W, **Al-Hendy A.** Early Life Exposure to Estrogen-Mimics Increase the Occurrence of Uterine Fibroids via Expansion of Myometrial Stem Cell Population. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Mas A, Elam L, Diamond MP, Simon C. **Al-Hendy A.** Synergistic Effect of Estrogen and Progesterone on Myometrial Stem Cell Expansion in vivo. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Mohamed SA, Shalaby SM, Brakta S, Abdelaziz M, Hill WD, **Diamond M, Al-Hendy A.** Human Bone Marrow Mesenchymal Stem Cells Therapy Restores Ovarian Functions and Reverses Infertility in a Preclinical Model of Chemotherapy Induced Premature Ovarian Failure. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Polotsky AJ, Allshouse AA, Krawetz S, Santoro N, Eisenberg E, Zhang H, **Diamond MP.** Male Obesity is an Independent Risk Factor for Treatment Failure among Couples with Unexplained Infertility in the Assessment of Multiple Intrauterine Gestations from Ovarian Stimulation (AMIGOS) Trial. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

THE MONITOR

Seungdamrong AM, Steiner A, Gracia C, **Diamond MP**, Legro R, Jin S, Eisenberg E, Zhang H, Santoro N. Antithyroid Antibodies, but not Thyroid Stimulating Hormone, are Associated with Decreased Pregnancy Rates in Infertile Women. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Suturina L, Darzhaev Z, Lazareva L, Sholohov L, **Lizneva D**: Prevalence and Clinical Subphenotypes of PCOS in Caucasian and Asian Women from Eastern Siberia. Oral Presentation. 11 Congress of the European Society of Gynecology, October 21-24, 2015, Prague.

Suturina L, **Lizneva DV**, Lazareva L, Atalyan A, Grebenkova L, Darzhaev Z, **Brakta S, Diamond MP, Azziz R**: Oxidative Stress Biomarkers in the Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) vs. Controls: The Role of the PCOS Phenotype. The Androgen Excess and PCOS Society 13th Annual Meeting 2015.

Thakur M, Bolnick A, Abuzeid O, Raju R, Dai J, Puscheck EE, **Diamond MP**, Abuzeid MI. Comparison of Hormonal Levels in Polycystic Ovary Patients Using Short and Long Antagonist Protocols during Controlled Ovarian Stimulation in IVF-ET Cycles. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Wu HL, **Azziz R, Chen YH**: The circulating levels of mir-93 tend to be elevated in PCOS. Androgen Excess Society Meeting, Siracusa, Sicily, Italy, October 2015.

Yang Q: Epigenetics of uterine fibroids: novel therapeutic targets. Roundtable luncheon Discussion in Baltimore. ASAM 2015 Annual Meeting, October 17-21, 2015, Baltimore, MD.

Yang Q, Elam L, Laknaur A, Gavrilova-Jordan L, Lue J, Diamond MP, Al-Hendy A. Altered DNA Repair Genes in Human Uterine Fibroids are Epigenetically Regulated via EZH2 Histone Methyltransferase. American Society of Reproductive Medicine, Baltimore, MD, October 2015.

Yang Q, Mas A, Elam L, Trevino LS, Berry TD, Walker CL, **Diamond MP, Al-Hendy A**: Early life exposure to Genistein permanently decreases myometrial DNA repair capacity which may contribute to increased risk of uterine fibroid development. Oral presentation. ASAM 2015 Annual Meeting, October 17-21, 2015, Baltimore, MD.

Diamond MP, Fletcher NM, Neubaur B, Saed MG, Abu-Soud H, Saed GM. Hypoxia-Induced Genotype Switch in Nicotinamide Adenine Dinucleotide Phosphate (NADPH) Oxidase Through the Up-Regulation of Cytidine Deaminase Regulates Postoperative Adhesion Development. AAGL Global Congress 2015. Las Vegas, NV. November 2015. (Poster Presentation)

Braun KM, Stager RD, Ray CB, Rungruang BJ. Development of a Low Fidelity Model to Teach Laparoscopic Salpingostomy and Salpingectomy. AAGL Global Congress 2015. Las Vegas, NV. November 2015. (Oral Presentation)

*From our family to yours, have a
safe and wonderful holiday season!*

