New Appointments

Egg Donation at Yale

ADVANCING OBGYN

New Use for Old Materials in Vaginal Reconstructive Surgery

CHAIR’S CORNER

Developments from Yale Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences

Welcome to this latest issue of ADVANCING OBGYN. We are pleased to provide you with this newsletter as a compilation of recent clinical developments in our Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences. Our continuing goal is to cover controversial topics as well as new treatments and therapies developed at Yale that we believe can have an immediate impact on your clinical practice. We continue to distribute this newsletter to community and academic obstetricians, gynecologists, residents, fellows, and medical and midwifery students throughout the state of Connecticut, as well as to our greater Yale family around the country.

We are delighted to share our research, work, and progress with you and hope you find this issue of ADVANCING OBGYN informative and enjoyable. We hope this newsletter will be a valuable source of updates on the Section’s clinical developments, and we welcome and encourage you to provide your input at s.eali@yale.edu or fax 203-737-1883 for future issues.

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We Do More Than Provide The Latest Advances – We Discover Them
Diabetes Care for Pregnant Women at Yale-Maternal-Fetal Medicine

By Dr. Stephen Thung

As the incidence of diabetes in pregnant women continues to grow, the prevention of gestational diabetes in our pregnant population has increased. It is important for the health care providers in managing diabetes in pregnancy, we have expanded the Diabetes in Pregnancy Program, and our patients are currently available to see your patients Monday through Friday at Mount Sinai Hospital and at Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

Dr. Stephen Thung, MD, is the New Director of the Program. He will oversee the care of the pregnant diabetic women at the Yale-Maternal-Fetal Medicine. Although the focus of the women will be to control diabetes, consultation and management of other endocrinologic disorders will also be available to the referring physician through the program.

The Program will help initiate and manage hypoglycemic therapies to ensure controlled glucose levels in your pregnant patients with diabetes. We are excited to now offer insulin therapy, in the form of glulisine, to those gestational diabetic women who cannot optimally control their blood sugar with oral agents alone. Recent studies have shown that glulisine is an effective, and easily tolerated alternative to insulin.

The Program provides essential services for diabetic women before and after pregnancy. Although it is widely known that hyperglycemia at conception is teratogenic, preconception consultation and preconception glycemic control are often overlooked. It is recommended that your patient's endocrinologist to optimize glycemic control before pregnancy and after delivery. For women with gestational diabetes, postpartum diabetes, and those who want to become pregnant in the future, the Disease-in-Pregnancy Program staff will work with your patient's endocrinologist to optimize glycemic control before pregnancy and after delivery. For women with gestational diabetes, postpartum diabetes, and those who want to become pregnant in the future, the Disease-in-Pregnancy Program staff will work with your patient's endocrinologist to optimize glycemic control before pregnancy and after delivery. For women with gestational diabetes, postpartum diabetes, and those who want to become pregnant in the future, the Disease-in-Pregnancy Program staff will work with your patient's endocrinologist to optimize glycemic control before pregnancy and after delivery.

The Department is pleased to welcome three new faculty members who joined us in 2006: Marsha Guess, MD, Anna Sfakianaki, MD, and Heather Lipkind, MD.

Dr. Marsha K. Guess earned her medical degree and completed her residency at the University of California, Los Angeles School of Medicine. She then completed a fellowship in Gynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Montefiore Medical Center (AECOM) in the Bronx, New York.

Prior to joining Yale, Dr. Guess served as Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Pelvic Health at New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City. Dr. Guess received her medical degree from the University of Michigan and completed her residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City. In March 2006, she was named Yale as a Maternal-Fetal Medicine Fellow.

During her fellowship, Dr. Guess initiated the Yale Pregnancy Study, a clinical trial studying the use of 17P in the prevention of preterm labor. This study will be funded as a maternal volunteer, with the addition of four new sites across the country. She is collaborating with the clinical and research directors of our sites. In addition to her clinical and research responsibilities, Dr. Guess will be pursuing an MPH in Health Policy and Management from the Yale School of Public Health.

Dr. Heather S. Lipkind joined us as a Fellow in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Pelvic Health for her work evaluating potential effects of prolonged bicycle riding and seat design on sexual function in women.

Dr. Heather S. Lipkind joined us as a Fellow in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Pelvic Health for her work evaluating potential effects of prolonged bicycle riding and seat design on sexual function in women.

Dr. Lipkind was an Assistant Professor in November 2006. She grew up in the New York area, and received her MD from the Weill Medical College at Cornell. She completed a residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at New York University/University-Bellevue Hospital in New York City. While at New York University/University-Bellevue Hospital in New York City, she also completed her Master's degree in Clinical Epidemiology from the Mailman School of Public Health.

Dr. Lipkind has clinical interests in adolescent medicine and has been involved in several studies, including as a Research Assistant on the Yale-Children's Hospital and at the Department of Health and Mental Health in New York City. She has been involved in several studies, including as a Research Assistant on the Yale-Children's Hospital and at the Department of Health and Mental Health in New York City. She has been working as a Mantel Scholar at the Department of Health and Mental Health in New York City since 2003. She has been working as a Mantel Scholar at the Department of Health and Mental Health in New York City since 2003.

Dr. Lipkind has published several articles on endometriosis and pelvic pain, and has been involved in several studies, including as a Research Assistant on the Yale-Children's Hospital and at the Department of Health and Mental Health in New York City. She has been working as a Mantel Scholar at the Department of Health and Mental Health in New York City since 2003. She has been working as a Mantel Scholar at the Department of Health and Mental Health in New York City since 2003.

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Diabetes Care for Pregnant Women at Yale-Maternal-Fetal Medicine

By Dr. Stephen Thung

As the epidemic in diabetes in pregnancy continues, so does the awareness of gestational gestations in our pregnant population. Indeed, there is a continued need to address the needs of these patients. The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Women’s Health continues to fill this need through the creation of The Diabetes in Pregnancy Program, and our experts are currently available to see your patients at our offices both in Yale-New Haven Hospital and at Long Wharf on Sargent Drive. This grant will allow Dr. Leiser to strive to provide superior guidance in both diagnosis and management, as opposed to merely a description of the relevant treatment options. Dr. Sfakianaki to learn more about the Program, or call the MFM appointments line to schedule your patients – 203-785-5682.

Medicine’s Gynecologic Ultrasound Program

By Dr. Edmund F. Funai, MD

The Department is pleased to welcome three new faculty members who joined us in 2006: Marsha Guess, MD, Anna Sfakianaki, MD and Heather Lipkind, MD.

The New Departmental Chair

Dr. Heather S. Lipkind joined us as our new Department Chair on July 15th. She replaces Dr. Stephen Thung as the Director of the Gynecologic Ultrasound Program, and as the new Chair of Maternal-Fetal Medicine.

Is It Time to Eliminate the Progestin from Hormone Therapy?

By Dr. Hugh Taylor

A similar discrepancy exists regarding cardiovascular disease. The estrogen plus progesterin arm of the Heart and Black Women’s Health Study demonstrated a significantly lower incidence of cardiovascular disease outcomes for the Heart and Black Women’s Health Study participants compared to the estrogen-alone arm of the Heart and Black Women’s Health Study. This is consistent with the findings of the recent Strategic Ultrasound randomised clinical trial, which showed that estrogen alone was associated with a lower incidence of cardiovascular disease outcomes compared to estrogen plus progesterin.

The treatment of breast cancer is a major public health concern, and the search for effective and less toxic treatment options is ongoing. The combination of endogenous estrogen and SERMs is highly effective. The Europeans have available a smaller IUD that is more easily placed in the postmenopausal uterus. This IUD will be studied in a randomised controlled trial to evaluate its efficacy in reducing hot flushes and improving overall well-being.

Dr. Marsha K. Guess earned her medical degree and completed her residency at the University of California, Los Angeles School of Medicine. She then completed her fellowship in Gynecologic and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Montefiore Medical Center (AECOM) in the Bronx, New York.

The Department

Dr. Sfakianaki joined our full-time faculty as an Assistant Professor in July 2009. Drew grew up in Miami, Florida, and graduated from the University of Miami. She completed her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at New York University/Bellevue Hospital in Manhattan. In 2003, she came to Yale as a Maternal-Fetal Medicine fellow. During her fellowship,Anna initiated the Yale Ultrasound Project. She is currently involved in several investigations, including developing both progestin and estrogen. She is also involved in studies evaluating the effects of progestin on endometrial hyperplasia. The general effect of progestin is to control the proliferation of endometrial tissue. However, the estrogen alone arm of the WHI showed a significant increase in the incidence of endometrial hyperplasia.

Dr. Heather S. Lipkind joined us as our new Department Chair on July 15th. She replaces Dr. Stephen Thung as the Director of the Gynecologic Ultrasound Program. Dr. Lipkind is a specialist in maternal-fetal medicine and obstetrics and gynecology. She received her medical degree from Harvard Medical School and completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. Following her residency, she completed a fellowship in maternal-fetal medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Montefiore Medical Center in Bronx, New York. She then joined our Maternal-Fetal Medicine fellowship program at New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, where she also completed her Master’s degree in Clinical Epidemiology from the Mailman School of Public Health. Dr. Lipkind has clinical interests in ultrasound imaging, counseling patients with endometriosis and pelvic pain, and performing research on the clinical outcomes of hormonal therapy.
New Appointments

Council, our Press-Grey patient satisfaction scores have risen significantly, the new Anatolu Medical Center in Istanbul.

He will continue to be clinically active at Yale in a reduced capacity, spending approximately one week per month providing clinical care and managing his endometrial...