UC San Diego

Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences

JULY 2023 VOL. 15

Fimbrizm QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Hello Summer!

Letter from the Chair

Dear Colleagues,

Hello Summertime, my favorite season! Welcome to Volume 15 of the *Fimbria* where we celebrate our graduating residents and fellows and welcome our new trainees. Each issue introudces one of our research labs and clinical innovations. This edition focuses on the lab of stellar scientist Priyadarshini (Priya) Pantham, PhD, a faculty member in the division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine. We also feature two programs in our Clinical Innovation series. The first is our Cardio-Obstetrics Program, led by Drs. Maryam Tarsa in MFM and Laith Alshawabkeh from Cardiology. The second is our Centering Pregnancy Program, a midwife-run group prenatal program meeting the needs of our expectant patients. Our Culture and Justice Quorum has embraced ACOG's IX CLEAR Initiative for our department culture of anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Visit our <u>website</u> for more information on our divisions, clinical programs, leading edge research, and academic affairs. Please enjoy this issue, and email us with any feedback to <u>Fimbria@ucsd.edu</u>.

Thank you!

Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS | Samuel SC Yen Endowed Chair

Department Chair, Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Sciences and Professor, Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology



Dr. Gyamfi-Bannerman, Chair, OBGYN & RS

UC San Diego Health



Department CV | Website

VICE CHAIRS	Clinical Affairs: Yvette LaCoursiere, MD, MPH Culture & Justice: Audra Meadows, MD, MPH Education: Gladys (Sandy) Ramos, MD Research (Interim): Pamela Mellon, PhD Translational Research: Louise Laurent, MD, PhD
DIVISION DIRECTORS	Complex Family Planning: Sheila Mody, MD, MPH Gynecologic Oncology: Michael McHale, MD Hospitalist: Gina Frugoni, MD Maternal-Fetal Medicine: Thomas Kelly, MD Obstetrics & Gynecology: Jessica Kingston, MD Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility: Antoni Duleba, MI Urogynecology: Emily (Mimi) Lukacz, MD, MAS
BUSINESS OFFICE	Administrative Vice Chair: Michael Morales Editor & Director of Communications: Sunny Worth Contact us at: Fimbria@ucsd.edu Department Curriculum Vitae Department of OBGYN & RS

FUNDING NEWS



Sanjay Agarwal, MD

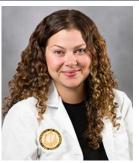
Sponsor SOBI

Grant

Pilot study of the IL-1 antagonist Anakinra for the treatment of endometriois related symptoms.

Award

1/1/2023-12/31/2023 \$47,121



Sarah Averbach, MD, MAS

Sponsor NIH/NIHCD

Grant

Increasing access to postpartum contraception by linking family planning and infant vaccination services

> Award 5/15/2023-4/30/2026 \$400,230



Lindsey Burnett, MD, PhD

Sponsor UCSD Center for Perinatal Discovery

Grant Center for Perinatal Discovery Pilot Grant

Award 7/1/2023-6/30/2024 \$10k

H. Irene Su, MD, MSCE

Sponsor

Academic Senate

Grant

Stress and Fertility Out-

comes: The SAFE Study

Award

6/1/2023-5/31/2024

\$14,994



Jessica Cassin, PhD

Sponsor NIH

Grant

Pathway to Independence "Examining the Role of Bmal1, A Novel Maternal Factor in Preimplantation Development"

> Award 8/1/2023-7/31/2025 \$295k



Sarah Averbach, MD, MAS Ukachi Emeruwa, MD, MPH

Conrad Prebys Foundation

The 4th Trimester Project: SHARE (Strengthening Health Access, Resources, and Excellence Initiative) Grant

> Award 6/2023-6/2025 \$150k/year



Heidi Cook-Andersen, MD, PhD

Sponsor CIRM

Grant

Towards a trophectoderm stemcell model representing human blastocysts of the highest implantation potential

> Award 1/2023-12/2025 \$1,584,000



Sheila Mody, MD, MPH **Sponsor**

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

Grant **Envision CF III: Emerging** Leaders in CF Endocrinology

> Award 4/1/2023-3/31/2026 \$61,525/year



David Schlaepfer, PhD

Sponsor V Foundation for Cancer Research

Grant "Overcoming Immune Resistance in Ovarian Cancer"

> Award 6/2023-6/2027 \$800k



Michael McHale, MD Rebecca Rakow-Penner, MD, PhD Anders Dale, PhD

Sponsor: Curebound

Grant: Curbound Cure Prize: screening for

ovarian cancer with advanced diffusion MRI in patients at high risk for ovarian cancer Award: 6/2023-6/2026 | \$1,000,000



Audra Meadows, MD, MPH Jandelisa Smith, MPH, MBA

Sponsor Conrad Prebys Foundation

Grant: OB Refugee Program: SHARE Grant to clinics to serve communities with low socio-economioc status

Award: 6/2023-6/2025 | \$100k/year



Sponsor NICHD

Grant

The circadian time of food intake and its effect on reproductive health.

> Award 5/2023-3/2028 \$3,145,789



PI: Alexander Kauffman, PhD Co-I: Antoni Duleba, MD and Tracy Harrison, MD

> Sponsor NICHD

NIH R01 Grant Score of 2% (2nd Percentile)

"Androgen effects on the reproductive neuroendocrine axis." This R01 Project will delineate the specific mechanisms by which androgens impact hormone secretion in females and transgender men.

11/2023-10/2028 | \$3,836,667



PUBLICATIONS

Recent Publications of Outstanding Work by Department of OBGYN & RS Members

Erin E Mccoy, Ronit Katz, Diana K N Louden, Emiko Oshima, Amy Murtha, **Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman**, Nanette Santoro, Elizabeth A Howell, Lisa Halvorson, Susan D Reed, Barbara A Goff

<u>Scholarly activity following NIH Women's Reproductive Health</u> <u>Research K12 training - A cohort study</u> | American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology • JULY 2023

Sanjay Jain, Liming Pei, Jeffrey M Spraggins, Michael Angelo, James P Carson, Nils Gehlenborg, Fiona Ginty, Joana P Gonçalves, James S Hagood, John W Hickey, Neil L Kelleher, **Louise C Laurent**, Shin Lin, Yiing Lin, Huiping Liu, Alexandra Naba, Ernesto S Nakayasu, Wei-Jun Qian, Andrea Radtke, Paul Robson, Brent R Stockwell, Raf Van de Plas, Ioannis S Vlachos, Mowei Zhou; HuBMAP Consortium; Katy Börner, Michael P Snyder

Advances and prospects for the Human BioMolecular Atlas Program (HuBMAP) | Nature Cell Biology • JULY 2023

Nicole H Goldhaber, Robin L Schaefer, Roman Martinez, Andrew Graham, Elizabeth Malachowski, Lisa P Rhodes, Ruth S Waterman, Kristin L Mekeel, Brian J Clay, **Michael McHale**

<u>Surgical pit crew: initiative to optimise measurement and ac-</u> <u>countability for operating room turnover time</u> | BMJ Health & Care Informatics • JULY 2023

Kotha NV, Guram K, Morgan K, Deshler L, Brown D, Rash D, Dyer B, **McHale M**, Yashar C, Scanderbeg D, Einck J, Mayadev J.

A randomized patient education trial investigating treatment-related distress and satisfaction with the use of an at-home gynecologic brachytherapy educational video | International Journal of Gynecological Cancer • JULY 2023

Charlotte Pickett, Warren G Foster, Sanjay Agarwal

Current endometriosis care and opportunities for improvement | Reproduction & Fertility • JULY 2023

Elke Hunsche, Martha Gauthier, Brooke Witherspoon, Viatcheslav Rakov, **Sanjay K Agarwal**

Endometriosis Symptoms and Their Impacts on the Daily Lives of US Women: Results from an Interview Study | International Journal of Women's Health • JUNE 2023

Dana Canfield, Lauryn Gabby, Elmira Vaziri Fard, Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman

<u>Cytomegalovirus in Pregnancy</u> Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinics of North America Journal • JUNE 2023

Milli Desai, Beth Zhou, Vinit Nalawade, Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, Nina Veeravalli, Henry Henk, James Murphy, Brian Whitcomb, H Irene Su

<u>Maternal comorbidity and adverse perinatal outcomes in survivors</u> of adolescent and young adult cancer: A cohort study | BJOG • JUNE 2023

Anmol Kulshrestha, Pratima Gupta

Combating polymicrobial biofilm: recent approaches | Folia Microbiol JUNE 2023 Grobman, William A. MD, MBA; Sandoval, Grecio J. PhD; Metz, Torri D. MD, MS; Manuck, Tracy A. MD, MS; Clifton, Rebecca G. PhD; Hughes, Brenna L. MD, MS; Saade, George R. MD; Longo, Monica MD, PhD; Sowles, Amber BSN, RN; Clark, Kelly BSN, RN; Simhan, Hyagriv N. MD; Rouse, Dwight J. MD; Mendez-Figueroa, Hector MD; **Gyamfi-Bannerman, Cynthia MD**, MS; Bailit, Jennifer L. MD, MPH; Costantine, Maged M. MD; Sehdev, Harish M. MD; Tita, Alan T. N. MD, PhD; Macones, George A. MD

The Temporal Relationship Between the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic and Preterm Birth | Obstetrics & Gynecology Journal JUNE 2023

Daphne Yvette LaCoursiere, Lisa Kane Low, Sara Putnam, Jean F Wyman, Diane K Newman, Shayna Cunningham, Leslie Rickey, Amanda Berry, Sheila Gahagan, Camille P Vaughan, Oluwateniola Brown, Sonya S Brady; Prevention of Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms (PLUS) Research Consortium

<u>Development of a tool to assess bladder health knowledge, attitudes,</u> and beliefs (BH-KAB) Neurology and Urodynamics JUNE 2023

Rabin, B. A., Cain, K. L., Watson, P., Oswald, W., **Laurent, L. C., Meadows, A. R.**, Seifert, M., Munoz, F. A., Salgin, L., Aldous, J., Diaz-Pardo, E., Villodas, M., Vijaykumar, S. O'Leary, S. T., & Stadnick, N. A. (in press).

Scaling and sustaining COVID-19 vaccination through meaningful community engagement and care coordination for underserved communities: Hybrid type 3 effectiveness-implementation sequential multiple assignment randomized trial | Implementation Science JUNE 2023

Heike Thiel de Bocanegra, Zahra Goliaei, Nossin Khan, Sereen Banna, Rawnag Behnam, **Sheila K Mody**

Refugee Women's Receptiveness for Virtual Engagement on Reproductive Health During the COVID-19 Pandemic | International Journal of Behavioral Medicine • JUNE 2023

Claudia Contadini, Alessandra Ferri, Claudia Cirotti, **Dwayne Stupack**, Daniela Barilà

Caspase-8 and Tyrosine Kinases: A Dangerous Liaison in Cancer | Cancers • JUNE 2023

Mihiri Karunaratne, Dora J. Melber, H. Irene Su, Gladys A. Ramos

Dicavitary twin pregnancy in patient with bicornuate bicollis uterine anomaly | Clinical Case Reports • JUNE 2023

Paul C Nathan, H Irene Su

Making sense of the risks: what to tell adolescents and young adults diagnosed with cancer during pregnancy | Journal of the National Cancer Institute • JUNE 2023

Yokabed Ermias, **Sarah H Averbach**, Arnab K Dey, Ewenat Gebrehanna, Kelsey Holt

The Association Between Quality of Contraceptive Counseling and Selection of Contraceptive Method Post-counseling Among Women in Ethiopia | Contraception Journal • MAY 2023

Karen K Mestan, Sandra L Leibel, Eniko Sajti, Betty Pham, Samantha Hietalati, **Louise Laurent**, Mana Parast.

Leveraging the placenta to advance neonatal care | Frontiers in Pediatrics • MAY 2023

PUBLICATIONS

Recent Publications of Outstanding Work by Department of OBGYN & RS Members

Melissa L Constantine, Todd H Rockwood, Leslie M Rickey, Tamara Bavendam, Lisa Kane Low, Jerry L Lowder, Alayne D Markland, Gerald McGwin 8, Elizabeth R Mueller, Diane K Newman, Sara Putnam, Kyle Rudser, Ariana L Smith, Ann E Stapleton, Janis M Miller, **Emily S Lukacz** of the Prevention of Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms (PLUS) Research Consortium

Validation of bladder health scales and function indices for women's research | AJOG • MAY 2023

Audra R Meadows MD, MPH, Howard Cabral PhD, MPH, Chia-ling Liu ScD, MPH, Xiaohui Cui PhD, Ndidiamaka Amutah-Onukagha PhD, MPH, Hafsatou Diop MD, MPH, Eugene R. Declercq PhD

Preconception and Perinatal Hospitalizations as Indicators of Risk for Severe Maternal Morbidity in Primiparas AJOG MFM • MAY 2023

Selina Sandoval, Grace Chen, Sally Rafie, Borsika Rabin, **Sheila** Mody, Sarah Averbach

<u>A qualitative analysis of pharmacists' attitudes towards provision</u> of medication abortion | BMC Health Services Research • MAY 2023

Anvita Dixit, Nicole E Johns, Mohan Ghule, Madhusudana Battala, Shahina Begum, Niranjan Saggurti, Jay Silverman, Elizabeth Reed, Susan M Kiene, Tarik Benmarhnia, **Sarah Averbach**, Anita Raj

Association of traditional marital practices with contraceptive decision-making, couple communication, and method use among couples in rural Maharashtra, India | Culture, Health & Sexuality Journal • APRIL 2023

Debra L Richardson, Ramez N Eskander, David M O'Malley

Advances in Ovarian Cancer Care and Unmet Treatment Needs for Patients With Platinum Resistance: A Narrative Review | JAMA • APRIL 2023 Luis D. Pacheco, M.D., Rebecca G. Clifton, Ph.D., George R. Saade, M.D., Steven J. Weiner, M.S., Samuel Parry, M.D., John M. Thorp, Jr., M.D., Monica Longo, M.D., Ph.D., Ashley Salazar, R.N., M.S.N., W.H.N.P., Wendy Dalton, R.N., Alan T.N. Tita, M.D., Ph.D., **Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, M.D.**, Suneet P. Chauhan, M.D., et al.

Tranexamic Acid to Prevent Obstetrical Hemorrhage after Cesarean Delivery | NEJM • APRIL 2023

Breana L Hill, Ryon P Graf, Kunal Shah, Natalie Danziger, Douglas I Lin, Julia Quintanilha, Gerald Li, James Haberberger, Jeffrey S Ross, Alessandro D Santin, Brian Slomovitz, Julia A Elvin, **Ramez N Eskander**

Mismatch repair deficiency, next-generation sequencing-based microsatellite instability, and tumor mutational burden as predictive biomarkers for immune checkpoint inhibitor effectiveness in frontline treatment of advanced stage endometrial cancer International Journal of Gynecologic Cancer • APRIL 2023

Emily S Lukacz, Chloe Falke, Julia Geynisman-Tan, Jean F Wyman, Elizabeth R Mueller, Alayne D Markland, Leslie Rickey, Jerry L Lowder, Kyle Rudser, Lisa Kane Low, Diane K Newman; Prevention of Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms (PLUS) Research Consortium

<u>Healthy bladder storage and emptying functions in communi-</u> <u>ty-dwelling women measured by a 2-day bladder health diary</u> | Neurourology & Urodynamics • APRIL 2023

Giselle Peng, Jennifer L Taylor-Cousar, MinJae Lee, Ashley Keller, Natalie E West, Traci M Kazmerski, Jennifer L Goralski, Moira L Aitken, Andrea H Roe 7, Denis Hadjiliadis, Ahmet Uluer, Patrick A Flume, **Sheila Mody**, Leigh Ann Bray, Raksha Jain

Association between unplanned pregnancies and maternal exacerbations in cystic fibrosis | Journal of Cystic Fibrosis • APRIL 2023

NEWSBYTES

Recent News Featuring Department of OBGYN & RS Members



UC SAN DIEGO DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS, GYNECOLOGY, & REPRODUCTIVE SCIENCES

News featuring Gina Frugoni, MD and H. Irene Su, MD, MSCE The barriers LGBTQ+ patients face when trying to build a family | CBS 8 News • JULY 2023

News featuring Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS

<u>Screen-and-Treat for Bacterial Vaginosis Fails to Reduce Preterm</u> <u>Births</u> | MedPage Today • JULY 2023

National Women's Health Week Ambassadors 2023 | OASH • MAY 2023

News featuring Audra Meadows, MD, MPH

US Maternal Mortality Is Unacceptably High, Unequal, and Getting Worse–What Can Be Done About It? | JAMA • JULY 2023

News featuring Douglas Woelkers, MD

<u>A Blood Test Predicts Pre-eclampsia in Pregnant Women</u> | The New York Times • JULY 2023 News featuring Charlotte Pickett, MD

<u>Hysterectomy Ultimately Needed After 1 in 8 Endometrial Ablations</u> | MedPage Today • JUNE 2023

America's Best Maternity Hospitals | Newsweek • JUNE 2023

News featuring H. Irene Su, MD, MSCE Addressing Inequities in Affordability of Care to Promote a Culture of Health | Academy Health • MAY 2023

Fertility Care with Dr. H. Irene Su, Reproductive Endocrinologist | NBC Focus on Health • APRIL 2023

Media Relations Contact: Jeanna Vazquez

LABORATORY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Priya Pantham, PhD and her Lab Team are Discovering the Next Generation of Placenta & Preeclampsia Scientific Research to Improve Health in Pregnancy

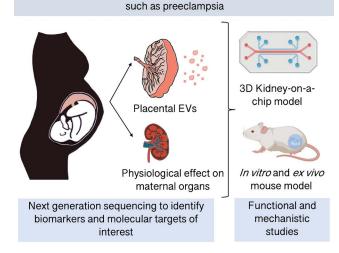


I was born in Chennai (Madras), India, and migrated to New Zealand as a teenager with my family. My Master's and PhD supervisor, Professor Larry Chamley, was my primary inspiration to pursue placental research. After completing my Doctoral degree at the University of Auckland, I migrated to the U.S. to undertake postdoctoral fellowships in placental biology at the Univ. of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, TX, the Univ. of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus in Denver, CO, and the Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in Campaign, IL prior to moving to UC San Diego. My singular driving force to conduct research has always been a deep passion for understanding and improving health in pregnancy, with the goal of building a world where each pregnant individual and their baby receives healthcare and support tailored to their unique needs.

Priyadarshini (Priya) Pantham, PhD of UC San Diego Pantham Lab I joined Professor Louise Laurent's lab in the Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine as an Assistant Project Scientist with an NIH K99/R00 Pathway to Independence grant in August 2019. I transitioned to an Assistant Professor role in October 2021.

Pantham Lab Research and Discovery

Research in my lab focuses on the role of the human placenta, particularly placental extracellular vesicles, (EVs) as carriers of molecular cargo that may play a role in health and disease. My K99/R00 research project involves using next generation sequencing to identify RNA biomarkers of preeclampsia, a placental disorder, in maternal urine. While in Professor Laurent's lab, I optimized methods to conduct automated and miniaturized transcriptomic profiling of maternal urine in pregnancy, which to our knowledge has been conducted for the first time. I am currently utilizing these methods in my own lab to profile >500 maternal urine samples from normal and preeclamptic pregnancies collected over several years which form part of the UCSD Perinatal Biorepository.



Role of placental extracellular vesicles (EVs) in obstetric disorders

Pantham Lab Research at UC San Diego

LABORATORY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Our lab is also interested in investigating the effect of placental EVs trafficked to maternal organs, particularly the kidney in preeclampsia, which is often characterized by proteinuria and glomerular endotheliosis in addition to maternal hypertension. To this end, we are in the process of establishing the use of a novel validated 3D kidney-on-a-chip model (Emulate, Inc.) to test the functional effects of placental EVs on renal cell types in the kidney in preeclampsia compared to normal pregnancy. We have also conducted a pilot study comparing maternal urine and serum from normal, preeclamptic, and HELLP (hemolysis, elevated liver enzymes, and low platelets) pregnancies and identified microRNAs (miRNAs) of interest that may originate from the placenta and play a role in renal dysfunction seen in preeclampsia, which we will investigate in mechanistic studies using our kidney-on-a-chip model as well as a mouse model in tandem.

MEET THE PANTHAM LAB TEAM MEMBERS



Dr. Pantham shown center with her Research Lab Team



Cassandra Wauer Master's student, Biology BS/MS program



Anushka Edlabadkar Undergraduate, Human Biology



Shalini Anisetti Undergraduate, Neurobiology



Albert Nguyen Undergraduate, Human Biology



Kyla Westfall Undergraduate, Neurobiology



Arya Tanksale Undergraduate, Molecular and Cell Biology

Research Goals

Our overall goal is to identify novel molecular pathways which could be targeted by therapeutics to prevent the acute and chronic manifestations of PE. To this end, we were awarded the <u>Preeclampsia Foundation Canada Vision Grant</u> 2021 and the <u>Center for Perinatal Discovery Pilot Grant 2022</u>. I was most recently invited to present at the Mother Infant Research Institute Seminar Series at the Tufts Medical Center in Boston, MA in Nov 2022. Our work will also be presented as posters and an invited talk at a workshop "Beyond 2D novel culture approaches to improve the way we study the placenta" at the <u>International Federation of Placenta Associations (IFPA) meeting</u> in Rotorua, New Zealand, in Sep 2023.

In addition to our ongoing funded research, during the COVID-19 pandemic, we worked in collaboration with Assistant Professor Marni Jacobs on a project comparing the humoral immune response to SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccination in pregnant versus nonpregnant women, and we found that pregnant women appeared to mount a non-differential humoral immune response to SARS-CoV-2 compared to non-pregnant women. Our work was published in the AJOG Global Reports.





Marina Mochizuki of Pantham Lab Master's Thesis Defense Celebration

Priya Pantham, PhD

Future Forecast for Pantham Lab



Dr. Priya Pantham Lab with Dr. Louise Laurent Lab at Jacobs Christmas Party

Mentoring Philosophy

My research has thrived since moving to UC San Diego thanks to my amazing mentor, Professor Laurent, and the opportunities she has provided me along the way. I am also grateful to Professor Mana Parast (Department of Pathology), who was a Co-mentor on my K99 grant. Having two exemplary mentors has illustrated one key mentoring philosophy: Pay it forward. Thanks to their support, I am now able to provide mentorship myself to undergraduate and Master's students at UC San Diego. I am particularly focused on promoting diversity in academia. I am passionate about mentoring women in the field of reproductive research, and also act as a mentor in the Biology Undergraduate and Master's Mentorship Program (BUMMP) which focuses on increasing recruitment and retention of underrepresented minorities in academia. One of my undergraduate students, Albert Nguyen, was awarded a BUMMP apprenticeship as well as a Summer URS Eureka! Research Scholarship for Biological Science majors to conduct research in my lab in 2022.

Research Philosophy

If the research we are conducting were easy to do, everyone wouldbe doing it, or it would have already been done. We utilize the most novel techniques and models to remain on the cutting edge of research and answer important questions that have yet to be tackled in pregnancy disorders including preeclampsia, preterm birth, antiphospholipid syndrome, and intrauterine growth restriction.

The lab is in the process of generating preliminary data to apply for R01 & R21 grants. A new Lab Assistant will work closely with Professor Laurent's lab on workflows to sequence extracellular small and long RNA. We are setting up pilot projects to establish collaborations with OBGYN & RS Assistant Professors Kathleen Fisch and Lindsey Burnett.

Unlocking Pregnancy Disorders with Scientific Solutions

The placenta remains an incompletely understood and understudied organ. We now know that appropriate placentation is essential for a healthy pregnancy, and the concept of placental function playing a role in defining fetal health as well as later in life, or the "Developmental Origins of Health and Disease" is well established. As part of the UC San Diego <u>Center for Perinatal Discovery</u>, co-directed by Professors Laurent, Parast, and Mestan, the Pantham lab is striving to raise awareness of the importance of understanding this organ as a key to unlocking pregnancy disorders in which the placenta plays a primary role. Visit the <u>Pantham Lab</u> to learn more.

Fimbria QUARTERLY | VOL. 15, JULY 2023

CLINICAL INNOVATIONS

UC San Diego Cardio-Obstetrics Program is a Beacon for Cardiovascular Disease in Pregnancy and a Benchmark for Subspecialty Collaboration Leading to Optimized Prenatal and Postpartum Outcomes

Globally recognized for clinical expertise integrated with the highest quality of care in state-of-the-art facilities, the UC San Diego Cardio-Obstetrics Program manages the complex cardiovascular needs of high-risk pregnancies. This program ardently serves our locals and welcomes patients who travel to be seen by our renowned Maternal-Fetal Medicine specialists, Congenital Cardiologists, Electrophysiologists, Anesthesiologists, and Skilled Nursing partnership team which develops individualized patient plans for optimal care.



In February of 2022, the Adult Congenital Heart Association (ACHA) awarded the UC San Diego Health <u>Adult Congenital</u> <u>Heart Disease Program</u> a 5-year status of an ACHA ACHD Accredited Comprehensive Care Center (only accreditation in greater San Diego County) thanks to the structured multidisciplinary approach put in place by leading Cardiologist Dr. Laith Alshawabkeh. Unofficially, the UCSD Cardio-Obstetric program began in 2017 when Dr. Alshawabkeh transferred from Harvard bringing with him rare expertise and an influx of patients. The program then materialized by distinguished Maternal-Fetal Medicine Specialist, Dr. Maryam Tarsa. Dr. Tarsa has been with UCSD since 1998, first as a resident and then as a fellow prior to joining faculty in 2005 and becoming a board-certified perinatologist with expertise in fetal imaging and congenital cardiac disorders. Blending specialties has become a life-saving line of care for the community.

The Cardio-OB team is well organized with superior clinical training for fellows. Out of the University of California Health Systems (UC5), only a few have cardio obstetrics programs: UCLA has Maternal-Fetal Medicine Cardio-Obstetrics, UCSF has PACT (Pregnancy and Cardiac Treatment), and UC Irvine has developed cardiovascular screening measures incorporated into EPIC for pregnant and postpartum patients via a joint UCSD and University of Tennessee MORE Foundation grant with Dr. Maryam Tarsa.

Cardio-OB Leadership and Team



Maryam Tarsa, MD

Maternal-Fetal Medicine Perinatologist, Professor of Ob/Gyn & Reproductive Sciences



Laith Alshawabkeh, MD, MSCI, FACC

Director, Adult Congenital Heart Program. Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine

Cardiology:

Matthew Carazo, MD Deborah Raleigh, NP Marcus Urey, MD Hilary Shapiro, MD Frederick Han, MD

OB Anesthesia:

Erin Martin, MD Larry Weinstein, MD

Maternal Fetal Medicine:

Jerry Ballas, MD Ukachi Emeruwa, MD, MPH Cynthia Gyamfi-Bannerman, MD, MS Thomas Kelly, MD Andrew Hull, BMBS Leah Lamale-Smith, MD Louise Laurent, MD, PhD Thomas Moore, MD Sandy Ramos, MD Douglas Woelkers, MD Richard Wolf, DO

About the Cross-disciplinary Cardio-OB Program

Specialized care begins with prenatal screening of obstetrics patients with pre-existing heart conditions and congenital heart disease followed by maternal-fetal consults (Dr. Tarsa and MFM team) and cardio consults (Dr. Alshawabkeh and Cardiology team). These patients are monitored closely by both groups who meet monthly at the Cardio-OB conference (all health members contributing to the unique needs of the patient including anesthesiology and nursing) to discuss treatment measures. The goal is to optimize health outcomes for patients with complicated conditions and their babies by providing evidenced-based advanced care across subspecialties. Because cardiovascular disorders can be triggered by pregnancy, the team evaluates patients to identify heart defects, vascular disease, the presence of arrhythmias, and high blood pressure. At times, the heart failure team and nursing service managers are involved for additional nursing arrangements such as telemetry cardiac monitoring. Pregnancy places added stress workload on the pumping heart and increases blood volume to support a growing baby. Although an increase in heart rate can be a normal symptom during pregnancy, this extra exertion from the heart can harm the cardiovascular system or exacerbate underlying heart issues. Dr. Tarsa advises screening patients for cardiac symptoms that may mimic normal pregnancy discomfort such as shortness of breath, lower extremity swelling, and monitoring fluid changes.



Cardio-OB Metrics at UC San Diego

Currently, there is a roster of 136 patients in EPIC with identified cardio-obstetrics needs with 14 active patients. This list has grown to over 150 over the course of the years as reputation is strong with ACHA recognition coupled with advances in cardio-thoracic surgery, fertility treatments, and referrals from Palomar Hospital and medical centers in Murrieta, Riverside County, and Orange County.

Postpartum Continuation of Care

Some cardiovascular conditions worsen after pregnancy so what sets this Cardio-OB team apart is the continuation of exceptional care after birth. The multidisciplinary service nature of the team approach has contributed to the success of the program with excellent outcomes. Thank you, Cardio OB team for going above and beyond to provide patients with remarkable specialized care!

CLINICAL INNOVATIONS

Centering Pregnancy Program at UC San Diego Health Provides Exceptional Group Prenatal Care for Improved Pregnancy Outcomes and Customizable Birth Choice



Christine Cortes, MSN, CNM, with patients and their infants at a Centering reunion.

A highlight of Centering is the postpartum reunion when moms bring their babies to the visit.

UC San Diego Health–Sorrento Valley, 4910 Directors Place (top) and Mosaic (MOS) at North Torrey Pines Living Learning Neighborhood locations serve the Cardio-OB Program and Maternal Fetal Care

UC San Diego Health's **Centering Pregnancy Program** is a community-wide highlight discussed here by Dr. Alice Sutton, Medical Director. Karen Perdion, Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM), Director of Nurse Midwifery Services, realized her vision to bring group prenatal care to UCSD in 2021. Since then, over 53 babies have been born to parents participating in Centering. Centering Pregnancy is an evidence-based model for prenatal care that has been shown to improve pregnancy and postpartum outcomes and decrease health disparities. Participants report benefits including strengthening of partner relationships, a better understanding of pregnancy, and increased self-efficacy. Centering Pregnancy fosters a sense of community that is highly valued by expectant parents. One UCSD participant wrote:

"It was so helpful to have conversations with other women going through the same things at the same time. It was incredible, I would recommend it to anyone having a baby!"

In a demonstration of the power of Centering to build community, the inaugural group of Centering Pregnancy patients returned to UCSD in October 2022 to participate in a panel discussion during Grand Rounds to celebrate the first anniversary of the Centering program. Their lively discussion and palpable bond was later captured by UCTV's Motherhood Channel <u>in this program</u> that won a Bronze Telly Award.

Centering also improves the health care provider experience by disrupting the usual prenatal care paradigm. Instead of repeating the same advice during a series of 15-minute return obstetric visits, Centering facilitators enjoy longer visits with their groups and the opportunity to foster conversation around important health issues. The midwives facilitating Centering groups find the program is economic, efficient, and empowers patients to take charge of their care while still delivering the comprehensive support, prenatal screening, and pregnancy risk assessment that is a hallmark of prenatal care at UCSD.



After birth Centering participants bond with their babies



Centering Babies



Alice Sutton, MD Medical Director

Meet the Centering Leadership and Team



Vanessa Wright, CNM, WHNP-BC UC San Diego Midwife, Reproductive Medicine, Centering Lead Facilitator



Karen Perdion, MSN, CNM Centering Program Director and Director, Nurse Midwifery Service

Lizette Lozano, MHA Community Women's Health Program Manager, Midwifery Division and NICU, Follow-Up and Early Development Clinic

Centering Pregnancy Midwives and Co-facilitators:

Anne Cooper, MSN, CNM UC San Diego Midwife

<u>Christine Cortes, MSN, CNM</u> UC San Diego Midwife

Centering Framework

Centering groups are composed of 6-10 patients with similar due dates. Patients have at least one individual early pregnancy visit to confirm pregnancy dating, review their health history, and assess eligibility for group prenatal care. Each group typically meets 9 times, and the participants receive a schedule with the dates and times for all future meetings upon entry to the program. In a Centering visit, the first half hour is a time for patients to socialize and take turns checking and recording their blood pressures, while the CNM and MA co-facilitators briefly check in with each patient and measure fundal height and fetal heart tones. Afterwards, the group assembles to do an opening activity and then moves on to a discussion of one or two key topics the facilitators have pre-selected based on gestational age. For example, during the first visit the group often discusses nutrition during pregnancy and common pregnancy discomforts and options for management. Participants can also bring their own concerns to the group for discussion. The session often closes with a mindfulness activity.

"When I first learned about Centering, I had trouble imagining how this would work. Would I trust patients to check and record their own vital signs? Would patients want to participate in 2-hour sessions? Would a group discussion of a sensitive topic spread medical misinformation? During facilitator training, I discovered that patients are empowered to manage their own health when they learn to check their vital signs. I also learned techniques for facilitating a discussion so that patients can teach each other accurate and appropriate information. Finally, I have observed that while the initial time commitment for Centering seems large, a visit that begins and ends promptly and is scheduled well in advance is more convenient than the traditional prenatal schedule for many patients."

- Dr. Alice Sutton



CNM Annie Cooper's Centering Group Reunion



UCSD's First Centering Group with Vanessa Wright, CNM

Creating and running Centering Pregnancy requires a group effort! Each Centering group at UCSD is led by two facilitators, a Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) and a medical assistant (MA). The skilled CNMs and MAs selected for participation attended a 4-day intensive workshop to become Centering facilitators before the program was launched. The program is led by Program Manager, Lizette Lozano, and Centering Steering Committee members Vanessa Wright, CNM, Karen Perdion, CNM, and Alice Sutton, MD.

The Centering Pregnancy Program is located in a dedicated clinic space in central San Diego at the Kearny Mesa Clinic. If you are a patient interested in Centering, or a provider who would like to refer a patient, please contact <u>midwifery@health.ucsd.edu</u>. For more information about Centering and/or Midwifery at UCSD, visit <u>Centering Pregnancy</u> and <u>Certified Nurse-Midwife Services</u>. Centering Healthcare Institute is a national organization that provides accreditation, training and support to individual institutions. More information can be found at <u>centeringhealthcare.org</u>.

Culture & Justice

Juneteenth and Pride Month Celebrations at UC San Diego



The Culture & Justice Quorum (CJQ) was excited to share in the UC San Diego Juneteenth celebrations around campus. Juneteenth, also known as Juneteenth National Independence Day, Freedom Day, and Jubilee Day, is significant for commemorating the end of slavery in the United States. As a community, we embrace this federal holiday (June 19th), acknowledging and commemorating this day not just as a historical event but as a representation and reminder of American progress towards justice and an equitable society.

At Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences (OBGYN & RS), we embrace our opportunity and responsibility to be an academic community whose culture values diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging, and justice (JEDI). In doing so, we actively build on our foundation of respect and appreciation for everyone through cultural celebration, appreciation, and education.

Summer celebrations for Pride Month at UC San Diego at the health system and university provided us with a colorful and joyful celebration of our identities and brought awareness of inclusive values that honor all SOGIE (sexual orientation, gender identities, and experiences). This celebration unites our medical students, faculty, staff, patients, and communities acknowledging the beauty of our individualities while fostering a sense of belonging and understanding among us.

American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) IX CLEAR Initiative

The Culture and Justice Quorum promotes ongoing JEDI education within the context of advancing systemic equity in healthcare. ACOG's Continuous Learning in Equity, Advocacy, and Race in Healthcare (CLEAR) Initiative in District IX is an ongoing effort to advance equity through education. Dr. Audra Meadows recently held a CLEAR Initiative Webinar for ACOG "Maternal Equity: A Demonstration of Inclusion Excellence in Obstetrical Care" showcasing the demonstrated successes of maternal quality initiatives to achieve equity. Learn more about the IX CLEAR Initiative. At Your Cervix

At Your Cervix (AYC) Resident Leads

- Milli Desai, MD, MAS, MHS
- Rafa Ifthikhar, MD
- Kellie Schueler, MD

At Your Cervix highlights the efforts of our residents to support the diverse community we serve. Integral to the Culture & Justice Quorum, resident Ambassadors to the Quorum and resident-led initiatives elevate the experience of JEDI in our academic community. This Summer, residents welcomed a visiting fellow, Dr. Obuobi, for a Social Media and Diversity presentation. At Your Cervix welcomes new resident leads for 2023-2024: Dr. Milli Desai, Dr. Rafa Ifthikhar, and Dr. Kellie Schueler.



2023 Graduating Chief Residents: From far left Drs. Ha, Zachek, Fernandez, Brodsky, Henderson, Mims

CONGRATS GRADUATING FELLOWS

Congrats to our graduating fellows, hurrahs and wishes for rewarding and gratifying opportunities ahead! See whose in luck to have a spectacular UCSD fellow coming ...













Katherine Coakley, MD Kaiser Permanente **Downey Medical** Center in Downey, CA

Lauren Gabby, MD **High Risk** Obstetrical Consultants in Knoxville, TN

Marianne Hom-Tedla, MD Main Line Health in Philadelphia, PA

Alexa Medica, MD Fertility Specialists Medical Group in San Diego, CA

Marielle Meurice, MD Northwest Permanente in Portland, OR

Nemi Shah, MD Trivalley Urology in Temecula, CA & adjunct faculty appt. at UCSD!

CONGRATS GRADUATING RESIDENTS

Congrats to our graduating residents and cheers to a bright future in OBGYN and the reproductive endeavors! See where they're venturing ...



Allison Brodsky, MD Gynecologic Oncology: MD Anderson Cancer Ctr., Houston, TX

Estefania Fernandez, MD, PhD Gynecologic Oncology: MD Anderson Cancer Ctr., Houston, TX

Diana Ha, MD, MPH **OB/GYN** Generalist at Kaiser Permanente, Oakland, CA

Tatyanna Henderson, MD Urogynecology & Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery: UC San Diego **Health Sciences**

Joseph Mims, MD Maternal Fetal Medicine: University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

Christine Zachek, MD, MPH

Critical Care Medicine: Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA

NEW RESIDENT BIOS

Meet Our Incoming Residents!



LUQMAN HODGKINSON, MS, PhD, MS

Hometown: Kakamega, Kenya
Graduate School: University of California, Berkeley; Columbia University (New York, NY)
Undergraduate School: Hiram College (Hiram, OH)
Medical School: Stanford University School of Medicine
Career Interests: To provide care for people in poverty and medical infrastructure in Kenya

Luqman Hodgkinson is from Kenya where he helped to open the Masinde Muliro School of Medicine, the first medical school in the former Western Provence of Kenya. He conducted the first study of 10-year survival for patients with HIV on ART in Kenya and taught pre-clinical students. He earned his medical degree and Masters in Public Policy (MPP) from Stanford University preceded by a PhD with pre-medical curriculum at the University of California, Berkeley in Computational Biology and a Master's of Science degree at Columbia University in Computer Science. His undergraduate studies were from Hiram College in Ohio where he graduated with a B.A. in Political Science and Computer Science. As a Medical Student Researcher at Stanford, he looked for evidence of language site migration after neurosurgeries near language sites for patients with medically refractory epilepsy. For wellness, he enjoys running outdoors in nature.



REBECCA KOLODNER, MD

Hometown: Baltimore, MD
 Undergraduate School: Washington University (St. Louis, MO)
 Medical School: George Washington University School of Medicine
 Career interests: Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, Complex Family Planning, and Immigrant Health

Hi! I'm Becca Kolodner. I grew up in Baltimore, MD and attended college at Washington University in St. Louis where I double majored in Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology and Spanish. I volunteered as a campus EMT and found my niche advocating for individuals who had experienced sexual violence, serving as student liaison to the University's Office of Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention. In 2016, I had the opportunity to live and study in Santiago, Chile for 7 months. I loved my time living with a host family, learning about Chilean culture and history, and playing varsity soccer at La Católica. I returned with a clarity of purpose and new language skills which enabled me to work as a Spanish medical interpreter in a clinic serving refugees, immigrants, and under-insured individuals. Upon graduating college, I worked in OBGYN clinical research at Barnes Jewish Hospital / Washington U. I pursued my passion for reproductive and immigrant health as a medical student in D.C. at George Washington University School of Medicine; teaching evidence-based sexual health curriculum at local public middle schools, leading medical Spanish courses for fellow health-professional students, and conducting research on patient-center maternity care for immigrant women in Southern California. Outside of medicine, I enjoy yoga, weightlifting, trying new tea flavors, and spending time outside with my fiancé, Michael. We are absolutely thrilled to be moving to San Diego!



ASHLEY LOPEZ, MD

Hometown: San Diego, CA Undergraduate School: Harvard College Medical School: Columbia University Career Interests: Medical Education, Maternal Fetal Medicine

I am a San Diego native and after spending 8 years on the east coast for college and medical school, I am thrilled to make my way back home to care for the people of my home community. In addition to women's health, I have a strong interest in border and global health, medical education and maternal fetal medicine. In my free time, I enjoy running, learning to cook new dishes, heading to the beach with my dogs, going to TJ to the CECUT [Tijuana Cultural Center] and for the food, and spending time with family.

NEW RESIDENT BIOS

Meet Our Incoming Residents!



NYEROVWO FAITH OKIFO, MD

Hometown: Naugatuck, CT Undergraduate School: University of Connecticut Medical School: Yale School of Medicine Career Interests: I am interested in pursuing a fellowship in one of the OB/GYN subspecialties. In particular, I am interested in MFM and REI.

My name is Faith Okifo. I was born in New York City and grew up in Naugatuck, CT. I attended the University of Connecticut (UConn) for undergrad and Yale for medical school. I am excited to be joining the UC San Diego OB/GYN subspecialties. My hobbies include creative writing, listening to music, and exploring beautiful outdoor spaces.



MCKENSIE WALL, MD

Hometown: Lexington, NC Undergraduate School: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Medical School: University of North Carolina School of Medicine Career interests: Family Planning

I was born and raised in North Carolina – I earned my undergraduate degree from UNC Chapel Hill where I stayed for medical school and also received a master's degree in public health. Between my undergraduate and medical education, I worked as a CNA for two years at a skilled nursing facility in Concord, NC where I had worked since I was 16 in almost every conceivable position. In my free time you'll find me hanging out with my two mini schnauzers, Homer and Mylan, tending to my plant children, attempting some DIY project or taking in sunny days doing an outdoor activity. My pups and I are so excited for the food scene and to explore the gorgeous landscape of Southern California!



EMILY YANG, MD

Hometown: San Diego, CA Undergraduate School: Dartmouth College (Hanover, NH) Medical School: UC San Diego Career Interests: Medical Education/Mentorship, oncofertility, fertility preservation, health systems research

Emily Yang grew up in San Diego and attended Dartmouth College, where she majored in biology modified with anthropology. She returned homes to complete medical school at UC San Diego, where she was passionate about teaching, mentorship, and research in health systems and oncofertility. She is excited to stay at UC San Diego for residency and to join an amazing team in her hometown. In her spare time, she enjoys yoga, gardening, baking, and spending time with her family.

NEW STAFF HIRES

Welcome to the Department of OBGYN and RS!



- Bianca Arce | Admin for the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences
- Nathalie Choi, CNM | Nurse Practitioner, Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) for Hillcrest Inpatient
- Andrea Corry, CNM | APP for Women's Health Services
- Alyssa Rodriguez | Admin/Fellowship Coordinator for the Gynecologic
 Oncology Division

Laurent Lab

- Sierra Adkins | Assistant Clinical Research Coordinator in Dr. Laurent Lab
- Lilliana Osuna | Assistant Clinical Research Coordinator in Dr. Laurent Lab
- **Maya Selvaraj** | Assistant Clinical Research Coordinator in Dr. Laurent Lab
- Cassandra Wauer | Master's Student

Lewis Lab

- Marilyn Aagard | Research Assistant to Lab Manager in Dr. Lewis Lab
- Luis Ramirez Hernandez | Research Assistant to Lab Manager in Dr. Lewis Lab
- Delfruz Hosseini | Research Assistant to Lab Manager in Dr. Lewis Lab
- Hillary Zhou | Research Assistant to Lab Manager in Dr. Lewis Lab

Mellon Lab

 Geneva Dunn | Reproductive Neuroendocrine Research Associate (SRA)

Breen Church Lab

• Helen Bell | Undergraduate Researcher

RECENT EVENTS





2023 March of Dimes March for Babies UC San Diego 'Miracle Marchers' Team led by Team Captains Jerry Ballas, MD and Henry Lee, MD in Balboa Park



Pratima Gupta, MD, MPH (left) and Audra Meadows, MD, MPH (right) at the May 2023 ACOG Annual Clinic and Scientific Meeting held May 20th in Baltimore, MD. Dr. Meadows presented The Hale Endowed Lectureship ' Why Maternal Health Equity is Maternal Health Quality: A Tale of Priorities, Metrics, and Action.'

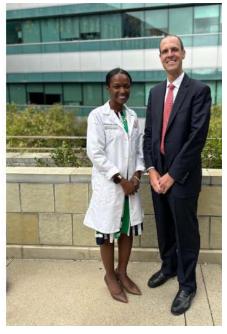
RECENT EVENTS



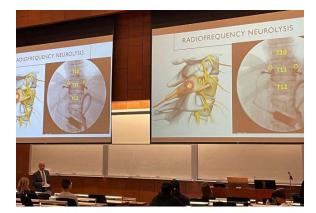
The Department of OBGYN & RS 2023 Research Retreat was held on May 31, 2023 in the Goldberg Auditorium at Moores Cancer Center and featured cutting-edge research presentations by fellows, residents, and scientists.



Department members watching inspiring research presentations by OBGYN & RS School of Medicine fellows and residents.



Drs. Gyamfi and speaker Jason D. Wright, Gyn Onc Division Chief from Columbia University Department of OB/GYN.







Dr. Antoni Duleba, Director, Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, and Dr. Charlotte Pickett, Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgeon, present at the Endometriosis, Infertility, and Pain Community Seminar held June 9th at the UC San Diego Medical Education and Telemedicine (MET) Building.

OPEN FACULTY POSITIONS

UC San Diego School of Medicine

Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Sciences

Associate or Full Clinical Professor in Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) is seeking to expand its Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS) Division with the recruitment of a fellowship-trained, board certified FPMRS OBGYN physician with outstanding clinical and leadership experience and skills. The current division members include nationally recognized leaders of the subspecialty dedicated to training the next generation of leaders in FPMRS. The division shares residency/fellowship training and research activities with colleagues at Kaiser Permanente, San Diego. The division engages in basic science research (which includes pelvic floor physiology), translational research (Urobiome) and clinical research with membership in NIH sponsored networks (e.g. Prevention of Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms (PLUS) and Pelvic Floor Disorders Network (PEDN). Division members collaborate in a multi-disciplinary environment with FPMRS board certified/eligible urologists, who share in the clinical, educational and research missions providing outpatient services at three locations in San Diego County and surgical care at the Jacobs Medical Center in La Jolla. The division plans to expand these services to satellite clinics in outlying San Diego County regions.

This position, estimated to be 100% effort, may be in the HS clinical or Clinical X series at the Associate Professor or full Professor rank. Candidates should have a commitment to excellence in clinical care, patient safety, patient satisfaction, education, research and participate actively in these missions of the division. Candidates must have a MD or MD/PhD, be board certified in general Obstetrics & Gynecology and board certified in FPMRS, eligible for appointment at the Associate Professor/Professor level and must have or obtain an active license to practice medicine in California.

The candidate should demonstrate an eagerness to collaboratively engage as the co-clinical medical director in our multidisciplinary outpatient Women's Pelvic Medicine Center and have the ability to direct the FPMRS fellowship program jointly administered by UC San Diego and Kaiser Permanente. Ideal candidates should have clinical experience in the management of the full spectrum of pelvic floor disorders including vaginal, abdominal and minimally invasive surgical approaches. Applicants will be expected to practice clinical FPMRS, teach students, train residents and fellows, mentor resident and fellow research projects, mentor junior faculty and participate in administrative functions of the division, department and University. Spanish fluency preferred.

The ideal candidate for this position is someone with:

- At least 4 years post fellowship experience
- Demonstrated scholarship and leadership skills
- Desire to collaborate with a well-established and highly functioning multidisciplinary, multispecialty team of gynecology and urology trained FPMRS specialist
- Interested in developing and refining leadership skills from a team of nationally known faculty and clinical leaders
- Desire to explore innovative & new methods of care in FPMRS, and training of the next generation of FPMRS specialists
- The ability to develop and expand the clinical mission to neighboring communities
 Goals to contribute to the education of medical students, OBGYN and urology residents, and FPMRS fellows

Candidates are required to show a demonstrated commitment to diversity and equity by submitting a Diversity Statement of past contributions and/or future plans of excellence in this area as part of their application for an academic appointment.

Interested Applicants must submit a CV, contact information of 3 references, and a separate statement summarizing past or potential contributions to diversity.

Please apply using this job application portal: https://apol-recruit.ucsd.edu/JPF03335

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status.

For questions regarding the position, please contact Emily Lukacz, MD, Division Director, Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery: <u>elukacz@health.ucsd.edu</u>

Department of OBGYN & RS News is on Social Media. Come Join Us!

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