

2010 Annual Report | Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology



Letter from the Chairman



Richard K. Silver, MD
Clinical Professor and Chairman
Associate Dean and Chief
Academic Officer

My message this year is directed to my colleagues in the department. I pose the question, “Where does a clinical department’s momentum come from?” As I complete my tenth season in its leadership position, I have given this question a lot of thought because I believe my job is to help sustain the momentum and the environment that will support your accomplishments. There is much evidence that our department continues to move forward on the strength of both individual accolades and teamwork. The 2010 annual report is full of recognitions of those activities that were “internal” to our organization—activities that individual caregivers and groups of providers within our department made possible. I hope as you review the program developments, educational undertakings and research initiatives, you take pride in the remarkable role you and your peers played on behalf of Obstetrics and Gynecology at NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore).

Momentum also implies a level of energy and direction that is difficult to achieve on our own. Many have asserted that modern medicine is a team sport, and our department has two very accomplished “teammates” with whom we partner on a daily basis. The first is our host organization—NorthShore University HealthSystem, without whom most of what we have achieved would not be possible. The foresight shown eight years ago when we set out together on an Epic journey is now so integral to our patient care initiatives for quality and safety that we could not effectively improve the care we give to patients if not for our electronic medical record and our willingness to share data directly with the families we serve. The transformation of our Hospital campuses, particularly Evanston, Highland Park and Skokie, is another example of a partnership with management at NorthShore, permitting gynecologic oncology to work effectively as part of the NorthShore Kellogg Cancer Care Center team; extending the reach of Maternal-Fetal Medicine to the geographically disbursed network we now refer to as the Centers for Maternal and Fetal Health; and the newest outpatient multidisciplinary initiative, the Centers for Pelvic Health,

There is much evidence that our department continues to move forward on the **strength** of both individual accolades and teamwork.

which are now seeing patients at both the Skokie and Highland Park locations. Through bricks and mortar, NorthShore has permitted our specialists to connect to our generalists and their patients where they would like to be seen and in a timely and efficient manner. While it is challenging to live out the NorthShore message that “excellence is all around you,” I believe that our annual report provides tangible evidence in support of this assertion.

The second “teammate” that supports our momentum is our academic affiliation with the University of Chicago’s Division of Biological Sciences where the Pritzker School of Medicine resides. Well into our second year of partnership, our department has had a huge lift from the Dean’s office at Pritzker in the form of support for both graduate and undergraduate medical education and a significant boost from the Chairman, Arthur “Cap” Haney, MD, and his faculty who have been remarkably accommodating of NorthShore as they continue to pursue their own important initiatives. Our collaboration last year resulted in two new or revised integrated fellowships (gynecologic oncology and maternal-fetal medicine) between campuses, both receiving American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology approval for a July 2011 start; approval for an increase in the resident complement to 28 per year; and an increase in the medical student rotation from four to six weeks so that we can add back a critical outpatient focus to our instruction.

It appears I have the answer to my opening question—our department’s momentum is created by the linkage of multiple key external partnerships in support of our internal activities with the former clearly facilitating the latter. The good news is that the resulting momentum shows no signs of letting up in 2011. Thanks again for all you do.

Sincerely,



Richard K. Silver, MD
Clinical Professor and Chairman
Associate Dean and Chief Academic Officer

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Obstetrics

2010 Highlights

In the interest of timeliness, patient satisfaction and efficiency, plans for comprehensive workflow analysis and redesign are under way with the goal of improving on-time starts for scheduled procedures performed in the Labor and Delivery unit. A multi-disciplinary partnership with the Quality Department is organizing an initiative to utilize “Lean” manufacturing processes to analyze and then optimize workflows in order to minimize waste and maximize efficiency. This will help avoid unnecessary delays and diminish frustrations among providers and patients.

Emmet Hirsch, MD

Clinical Professor, Vice Chair for Faculty Development and Clinical Practice and Division Director

Clinical Mission and Services

The Division of Obstetrics exists to preserve and advance the health of pregnant women through activity in three interrelated spheres. The first is providing excellent care to pregnant, laboring and postpartum women and their babies. Next is creating a learning environment with first-rate educational opportunities for students, residents and fellows. And finally, expanding the body of knowledge in women’s health through original research.



Chimene Pellar, MD, (left) and her patient, Naomi Barnett

2010 Achievements

- Clinical outcomes in Obstetrics at NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) are very favorable compared to like institutions across the country. The table below presents the latest 12-month data compiled by the National

Obstetrics 2010 Clinical Outcomes

	NorthShore	Subgroup AR Average	Entire NPIC Database Avg
Number of deliveries	4,778	3,918	4,399
Total C/S rate (% of all deliveries)	29.5	32.2	35.3
Vaginal birth after cesarean, % (Number of successful births divided by number with prior uterine scar)	19.0	14.9	11.2
3rd or 4th degree laceration* (% of all deliveries)	3.5	3.7	3.3
Postpartum readmission rate, %	0.7	1.2	1.0
Disruption or infection of obstetrical wound, %	0.8	0.6	0.5
Anesthesia complication rate, %	0.00	0.01	0.02
Total inborn birth trauma rate %	2.1	3.0	2.5

* Lacerations involving the maternal anal sphincter

Perinatal Information Center (NPIC), in which NorthShore is compared to other institutions in Subgroup AR (academic regional perinatal centers) and to the entire database (including all types of hospitals). The lower rates of cesarean section and higher rates of vaginal birth after cesarean (VBAC) in particular reflect a significant positive impact on patient health at NorthShore.

- Activities in the division occur within the framework of a multidisciplinary and collaborative culture. Active participants include Nursing, Nurse Midwifery, Family Medicine, Anesthesia, Obstetrics, Urogynecology and, where necessary, Gynecologic Oncology. Several multidisciplinary committees utilize dynamic processes to develop protocols and best practices on behalf of the division. The **OB Practice Committee** reviews and publishes practice guidelines for the Division of Obstetrics. The **OB Morbidity and Mortality Committee** meets monthly at NorthShore Evanston Hospital and quarterly at NorthShore Highland Park Hospital to review challenging clinical scenarios. The multidisciplinary **Obstetrical Clinical Outcomes Committee** meets bimonthly to review quality data. The **OB Safety Committee** successfully completed an OB Hemorrhage education and drill training project, which included development of an obstetric emergency paging system, an Epic OB Hemorrhage Order Set and hemorrhage crash carts for Labor and Delivery, the antepartum and postpartum units. They currently have the following projects under way:
 - Development of a formalized protocol so that all cases of obstetric hemorrhage can be tracked and reviewed, and appropriate systems improvements can be made;
 - Development of a worksheet to assist with documentation;
 - Development of a standardized note in Epic to improve complete and consistent note writing and to allow for data tracking; and
 - Performance of unannounced hemorrhage drills.
- Emmet Hirsch, MD represented the department in the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development's (NICHD) Genomic and Proteomic Network for Premature Birth Research Advisory Board. Dr. Hirsch has also contributed as a judge for the Society for Gynecologic Investigation in Orlando, Florida.

Research to Understand and Ultimately Prevent Preterm Birth

Dr. Hirsch's laboratory strives to understand **pathophysiology of preterm labor** with the overarching goal of developing treatment and prevention strategies that can reduce the burden of suffering due to premature birth. The research focuses on the role of *toll-like receptors* that signal labor in response to infection. A number of remarkable accomplishments have been achieved this past year, including characterizing a genetic susceptibility to preterm delivery using a tissue bank collected from over 370 preterm labor patients and controls who participated in an NIH-sponsored clinical study. Among the novel findings is the possibility that the fetus actually signals for preterm labor, such that effective treatment may need to consider both the fetal and maternal contributions to this disease. In related animal studies, the Hirsch

laboratory has progressed in its understanding of the mechanisms through which infection triggers labor and has identified a synergistic interaction between bacterial and viral signals that may amplify the chance of preterm birth.

Dr. Hirsch's laboratory has continued to receive funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the March of Dimes and a variety of philanthropic and internal sources. He also trains graduate students and provides postdoctoral scientists the opportunity to work in his laboratory. He is a permanent member of the NIH, NICHD Obstetrics and Maternal-Fetal Biology Subcommittee and has served on the NIH, NICHD P01 Grant Review Special Emphasis Panel. He is also a member of the Advisory Board, NIH, NICHD Genomic and Proteomic Network for Premature Birth Research. We are most



Emmet Hirsch, MD, Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs and Faculty Development

fortunate to have a basic science researcher, who is also an expert clinician, to formulate questions in the laboratory that can have real clinical impact for our patients in the years to come.

Gynecology

2010 Highlights

- Our division is partnering with the Department of Pathology to gather and analyze data on compliance with guidelines related to human papillomavirus (HPV) and Pap smear screening and the subsequent impact on women's health. Our goal is to report the collective experience and individual statistics to provide insight into compliance with "best practice" care.
- Planning is under way for a symposium exploring optimum work flows in tertiary care centers relative to the interaction between subspecialists and generalists. Our goal is to develop a strategy for preservation of participating in a patient's care by the general OB-GYN while ensuring that the highest level of available care is provided. At the same time, we must consider our commitment to the teaching mission. Our intent is to more clearly define each participant's role and identify the primary source for direction of the plan of management to ensure the best outcomes for both outpatient and hospital care.

Kenneth Nelson, MD

Clinical Associate Professor, Vice Chair of Quality and Division Director

Clinical Mission and Services

The Division of Gynecology includes all of our department's specialists and encompasses the disciplines of office practice, adolescent gynecology, and contraceptive and family planning services, as well as surgical procedures in both outpatient and inpatient settings. The department recognizes that gynecologic surgery in particular is an iterative area within our specialty. As such, members are committed to lifelong and collaborative learning for the benefit of our patients. Our division's collegial culture is manifested by preceptor programs in which more experienced department members proctor others in order to elevate the quality and procedure-related expertise across the division. We have employed all of the latest technologies, including robotics, to bring state-of-the-art care to the community of patients we serve. We are committed to providing this quality care in an atmosphere of safety, support, cost-effectiveness and partnership with all of our patients.

2010 Achievements

- In this era where hysteroscopy, endometrial ablation and hysteroscopic tubal occlusion have moved largely into the office setting, our surgical volume has remained strong. We performed **nearly 3,000 cases** across our four pavilions. Our outpatient gynecology clinic has been renovated and has enjoyed growth in patient volume leading to oversubscription.
- This year, two of our generalists, Edward Lee, MD, and Lamarr Tyler, DO, with special interest in minimally invasive surgery, developed a technique for **minilaparotomy abdominal hysterectomy** for myomatous uteri. Combining laparoscopic instrumentation with open techniques for myomectomy, their approach proved as effective as laparoscopic total hysterectomy. Their results demonstrated comparable lengths of stay, recuperation and blood loss with less cost and shorter operating times. Their experience was reported at a national meeting for minimally invasive surgery.

Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP)

NorthShore 2010 Performance Results

Evidence-Based Practice	Goal	4Q 2010	FY 2010
SCIP 1 (Abx received within 1 hour prior to incision)	98.2%	100.0%	98.9%
SCIP 2 (Appropriate abx selection)	99.3%	100.0%	93.0%
SCIP 3 (Abx discontinued within 24 hours of surgery end time)	96.7%	100.0%	98.9%
SCIP CARD 2 (BB on admission and received periop)	98.9%	100.0%	100.0%
SCIP VTE 1 (Venous thromboembolism prophylaxis ordered)	98.0%	100.0%	99.3%
SCIP VTE 2 (VTE received within 24 hours of surgery end time)	97.0%	100.0%	99.1%



Kenneth Nelson, MD, Vice Chair of Quality, NorthShore Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

- The NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) gynecological training rotations received high marks from the residents and medical students at our academic affiliate, the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. Dozens of faculty members have been recognized for their superior contribution to the teaching mission. NorthShore has doubled the residents' surgical experience available for learning and increased the breadth and depth of case exposure. The gynecology clinic has proved invaluable to the residents' learning experience, with a dedicated group of professors overseeing their experience. This has been enhanced by a **regularly scheduled preoperative conference** where patients' cases are presented. This allows review of indications and preoperative evaluation, discussion of management of co-morbidities and exploration of alternative surgical approaches.
- The multidisciplinary Gynecologic Morbidity and Mortality Committee has fully developed the process of case identification, review and resolution. This committee reviewed clinical encounters that warranted additional evaluation, which uncovered targeted educational opportunities. Results of these reviews included the committee **recommending an educational initiative** for medical record documentation. A Grand Rounds was held and recommendations for optimum documentation in Epic were reviewed. Ongoing emphasis on documentation is planned for 2011.
- Our **statistics** for the first half of 2010 reveal a complication rate of 0.8 percent for all complications (deep venous thromboembolism, pulmonary embolism, surgical site infections, organ injury and readmission within 30 days) and no mortalities. This was accomplished with an average length of stay of 1.4 days across the entire enterprise.
- For the full year in 2010, NorthShore Gynecology has performed exceptionally well in compliance with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP) performance measures. Collectively our gynecological surgeons **outperformed five of the six SCIP goals** for safe, high-quality surgery, and in the fourth quarter we achieved a perfect score on all SCIP measures. (See the table titled "Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP)—NorthShore 2010 Performance Results"). Our Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems patient loyalty evaluations demonstrated marked improvement over our initial excellent scores such that we have well exceeded national benchmarks in all areas for the fourth quarter - >9 out of 10 of our **patients would recommend** us for gynecologic care.
- We have developed with the assistance of the NorthShore Quality Department a **physician scorecard**. Each scorecard includes data on surgical volume, average length of stay, mortalities, complications, readmissions, cost per case, case medical index, cases reviewed by the Morbidity and Mortality Committee and cases referred for counseling. Blinded data are distributed to all department members enabling each surgeon to gauge individual performance relative to his or her peer group.

Maternal-Fetal Medicine

2010 Highlights

- The Maternal-Fetal Medicine Division remains committed to clinical and laboratory research, and a number of new projects have been developed during this past fiscal year. The division currently has over 10 active, IRB-approved clinical trials. These research efforts have resulted in numerous presentations at leading scientific research meetings and numerous publications in leading peer-review journals. In addition, our division has begun to collaborate with the department at the University of Chicago with approved research trials and anticipates increased activity over time.
- Mara Dinsmoor, MD, MPH, provides leadership for our research efforts as the Director of Research. Ours is one of only 14 clinical trial centers of the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)-sponsored Maternal-Fetal Medicine Units (MFMU) Network. The MFM Unit participation allows our patients access to the most innovative and important clinical trials. (See "National Network for Clinical Trials in Pregnancy at NorthShore" on page 7.)
- Larry Thaete, PhD, and Mark Neerhof, DO, have continued their collaborative, basic science research involving evaluation of the role of vasoactive mediators in fetal growth restriction. It is anticipated that their research efforts will translate into improved quality of patient care in the coming years. Beth Plunkett, MD, MPH, also has received funding for her research, "A Dietary and Behavioral Intervention to Reduce Weight Gain in Obese Pregnant Women," as a Pilot Award at NorthShore University HealthSystem Research Institute.

Scott MacGregor, DO

Clinical Associate Professor, Vice Chair for Specialty Care and Division Director

Clinical Mission and Services

The Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine (MFM) is a group of nine board-certified or board-eligible specialists committed to clinical service, research and educational opportunities related to patients with high-risk pregnancies and their referring physicians. The division's commitment to quality and loyalty is in evidence in the Center for Maternal and Fetal Health's (CMFH) Fetal Diagnostic Center (FDC) at Evanston Hospital and in each of the eight other sites at Glenbrook, Highland Park, Lake Forest, Saint Francis, Northwest Community, Condell, Swedish Covenant Hospitals and NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) Medical Group's Gurnee ambulatory site. The CMFH consolidates the services of the Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine and the Fetal Diagnostic Centers and offers advanced technology and services.

2010 Achievements

- In the past year, **the FDC provided more than 30,000 discrete services** to patients. The FDC is one of the leaders in first trimester screening for fetal aneuploidy, and the ultrasonographers maintain certification in first trimester genetic screening. It is one of the only centers in the area to offer evaluation of the fetal nasal bone as a routine component to aneuploidy screening, which significantly increases the fetal aneuploidy detection rate.
- The Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine has **developed a comprehensive support staff**. Clinical and administrative staff includes five genetic counselors, four MFM nurses, four FDC nurses, four research nurses, 11 ultrasonographers, a nurse assistant, a support secretary and billing staff. Our patients with diabetes or multiple gestations have access to a prenatal dietician and certified diabetic educator to assist with their care.
- The FDC has maintained certification through the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM).
- The **FDCs are interconnected electronically** through the image archiving system and Epic electronic medical record. Epic has been used to develop a systematic approach to patient and physician communication, as well as record review. Access to Epic through any Internet connection ensures that the patient's record is always



Ian Grable, MD, MPH, Attending (left) provides training in Shoulder Dystocia.

The Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine is committed to clinical service, research and educational opportunities related to patients with high-risk pregnancies and their referring physicians.

available and includes relevant imaging. Epic also allows patients to access their record and laboratory tests from their home computer or mobile device through NorthShoreConnect.

- The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology was a leader in implementing Safer Healthcare, a program to **improve patient safety in Labor and Delivery** at NorthShore Evanston and Highland Park Hospitals and in the Chicago area. The program was initiated under the direction of Ian Grable, MD, MPH, who continues to oversee the program and provide ongoing assessment of the success of the program. This initiative demonstrates our commitment to quality care and patient safety. Subsequently, the department has introduced two additional initiatives, Shoulder Dystocia and Obstetric Hemorrhage training, to improve patient safety and care. The Simulation Lab has also been increasingly utilized in the training of medical students and residents to improve patient care and safety.
- Our commitment to quality improvement also involves our educational programs. **MFM provides education opportunities** for medical students and residents, as well as referring physicians and nursing staff. The MFM staff participates in student lectures, hosts four educational conferences for students and residents weekly, and supervises two high-risk obstetric clinics weekly at the Evanston campus. In 2010 the division began our partnership with the University of Chicago MFM Fellowship training program. In addition, the network hospitals receive lectures and educational materials for both physicians and nurses. These educational opportunities are provided by the division within the Perinatal network under the organization of Myra Sabini, RN, Perinatal Center coordinator. MFM physicians regularly attend department meetings at our network hospitals and provide quarterly morbidity and mortality conferences at each of the hospitals in the network.
- The division **sponsored a regional, multidisciplinary conference**, New Horizons in Obstetrics, in October 2010 under the direction of Mara Dinsmoor, MD, MPH. In its inaugural year, the conference was almost fully subscribed and received excellent evaluations by the attendees. Charles Lockwood, MD, MHCM, with the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at Yale University School of Medicine, was the keynote speaker for the event.

National Network for Clinical Trials in Pregnancy at NorthShore

The Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine at NorthShore has participated in the NIH, NICHD-sponsored clinical research network, created over two decades ago to study critical questions that affect the health and safety of pregnant women and their unborn children. This past year was the fifth consecutive year of NorthShore's participation (with a renewal application pending), led by Mara Dinsmoor, MD, MPH. Completed studies from this network included the use of maternal intravenous magnesium as an effective prevention strategy for cerebral palsy in preterm infants; a randomized trial of antioxidant vitamins to prevent pre-eclampsia (showing no benefit to therapy); a randomized study for treatment of women with mild diabetes in pregnancy showing significant risk reduction for the mother and the infant; and a clinical study of maternal progesterone injections in twin and triplet pregnancies to reduce the risk of preterm birth (also without apparent clinical benefit in contrast to a definite benefit in pregnant women with a prior preterm birth shown previously by the network).

Current studies that the MFM Division is either recruiting for or providing additional data

on already enrolled subjects include thyroid hormone replacement to correct maternal subclinical hypothyroidism and enhance neurologic development in the newborn; the use of progesterone to prevent preterm birth in women with a short cervix; the provision of maternal steroids to pregnant women who are going to delivery in the late preterm period to improve lung function in their newborns; and a large retrospective chart review to assess factors that support excellent clinical outcomes at the time of delivery.

Preparations are also under way to start a new randomized trial designed to reduce the rates of cesarean section by performing a more sophisticated analysis of the fetal heart rate in labor via interpretation of the fetal electrocardiogram. For the first time, a new clinical protocol developed at NorthShore by Dr. Dinsmoor in collaboration with other network centers is scheduled to be opened. The study will attempt to tackle the problem of newborn cytomegalovirus infection, the most common congenital infection affecting up to 1 percent of all U.S. births. It is estimated that of the 44,000 congenitally infected



**Mara Dinsmoor, MD, MPH,
Research Director**

newborns per year, nearly 400 children die from this disease, and up to 8,000 develop permanent disabilities. The proposed study seeks to significantly improve these outcomes.

Membership in this prestigious clinical trials network is highly competitive, and the results of many network-sponsored studies ultimately change the standard of care for pregnant women. We are fortunate that through Dr. Dinsmoor's leadership we can be part of this leading-edge research.

Gynecologic Oncology

2010 Highlights

- Jean Hurteau, MD, was an invited speaker at the annual Winter Meeting of the Society of Gynecologic Oncology. His topic was Targeted/Novel Therapies in Gynecologic Cancer.
- Gustavo Rodriguez, MD, was an invited guest professor at Michigan State University where he gave two Grand Rounds lectures to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and also gave an invited lecture to members of the Breslin Cancer Center. He was also the recipient of the Stephen A. Weisman Humanitarian Award for Cancer Care by the Cancer Wellness Center.
- Jean Hurteau, MD, has actively served the Society for Gynecological Oncologists regionally and nationally, specifically as a member of the Educational Committee to help educate physicians and women on the issues related to gynecological cancers.

Gustavo Rodriguez, MD

Clinical Associate Professor and Division Director

Clinical Mission and Services

The Division of Gynecologic Oncology is committed to a multidisciplinary approach to treating women with malignant or premalignant conditions of the gynecologic tract. Our mission is to provide comprehensive and compassionate care for our patients while performing basic and clinical research that will make a significant impact in our community and beyond.

2010 Achievements

- We have continued to **expand access to care** across the NorthShore University HealthSystem. Our physicians are seeing patients at the Skokie, Highland Park and Glenbrook Hospitals, in addition to Evanston Hospital, and have expanded clinic hours to enhance convenience for patients.
- The division **hosted a cancer survivor's course** at Evanston Hospital. It was very successful and well attended with more than 200 attendees from both the local community and neighboring states. The Gynecologic Cancer Foundation sponsored this Chicago-based course as one of a nationwide series throughout the country.
- The Division of Gynecologic Oncology continues to be recognized for **outstanding patient loyalty**, ranking very favorably for quality of care compared to the top practices nationally and within the NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) Medical Group.
- The NorthShore **gynecologic oncology robotics program** has become fully established in gynecologic oncology for the surgical staging of endometrial cancer under the leadership of Carolyn Kirschner, MD.
- The **research laboratory program** headed by Dr. Rodriguez has made great progress in both finding and disseminating their findings. (See "Preventing Ovarian Cancer" on page 9.)
- Jean Hurteau, MD, received a **teaching award** for his work with the residents at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine.
- The division was awarded an integrated **gynecologic oncology fellowship** with the University of Chicago by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Hurteau will assist Program Director Diane Yamada, MD, of the University of Chicago and serve as the NorthShore Site Director in administering the program.
- Dr. Kirschner traveled to Nigeria on a mission to serve women with the debilitating complication of **vesicovaginal fistula**.
- Dr. Rodriguez was awarded grants from **Bears Care** and also by the NorthShore Women's Auxiliary to support research related to ovarian cancer prevention.

Goals/Next

The division will continue to fully integrate the gynecological oncology academic program with the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, including combined efforts related to the new joint gynecologic oncology fellowship.



**Gustavo Rodriguez, MD, Division Director and
Matthews Family Chair of Gynecologic Oncology Research**

A multi-million-dollar award was granted to the division for studies related to prevention of endometrial cancer and ovarian cancer. These studies are being spearheaded by Gustavo Rodriguez, MD, and his laboratory team and include collaborations with scientists at Harvard, University of Chicago, University of Pittsburgh and The National Cancer Institute.

Preventing Ovarian Cancer

Dr. Rodriguez's laboratory team has discovered that progesterone and vitamin D together inhibit ovarian surface cell growth, and they also found that progestin inhibits the enzyme that renders vitamin D inactive. By inhibiting vitamin D's breakdown, the vitamin has a longer half-life, and this may account for the synergistic effects of these two treatments as a prevention strategy. Based on these findings, they are **leading a national preclinical trial** through the Gynecologic Oncology Group, funded by the National Institutes of Health. Women who are undergoing risk-reducing removal of their ovaries receive either a progesterone or a placebo for four to six weeks prior to undergoing their scheduled surgery. The removed ovaries are examined to determine whether there is activation of molecular cancer prevention pathways so that a subsequent formulation of a progestin and vitamin D can be tested in a similar manner. It should be noted that vitamin D also has a number of other wellness benefits, including reducing the risk of breast cancer and lowering the risk of autoimmune diseases.

A similar set of studies are being carried out in parallel for the prevention of endometrial cancer, an even more common gynecologic malignancy than cancer of the ovary. A five-year grant from the Department of Defense was awarded for this work, and an additional study was funded on this subject via a collaboration with epidemiologists at Harvard. Dr. Rodriguez is also collaborating with the University of Chicago via a UC-ITM/NorthShore Research Institute special pilot grant to study the combination of a progestin and metformin for the prevention of ovarian cancer in an animal model.

Recently, Dr. Rodriguez was an invited participant in a research symposium sponsored by the Department of Defense and attended by Congressman John Murtha (D-Pa.), who has been instrumental in procuring funding for ovarian and endometrial cancer research. In 2010, Dr. Rodriguez was an invited presenter in Washington, DC at a State-of-the-Art Research Conference sponsored by the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists in which he presented an update on pharmacologic strategies for prevention of ovarian and endometrial cancers.

Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility

2010 Highlights

- Recent research advances in oocyte cryopreservation have allowed use of this technology with reasonable expectations of success.
- Work is also progressing on developments to allow for the transfer of fewer high-quality embryos during in vitro fertilization with reduction of the risk of multiple pregnancies while maintaining high levels of success.
- The division was well represented at this year's annual meeting of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine. Both John Rinehart, MD, and Eve Feinberg, MD, presented at symposia, and members of Dr. Rinehart's staff were involved with the graduate education program.

John Rinehart, MD, PhD, JD

Clinical Assistant Professor and Division Director

Clinical Mission and Services

The Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (REI) is composed of highly trained physicians qualified to meet the clinical needs of women and men who struggle with reproductive challenges. The division is dedicated to obtaining the best possible outcomes using the latest effective technology and is committed to advancing the art and science through research and education.

2010 Achievements

- The evolutionary trend in REI as a highly technical but office-based specialty continued in 2010. Changing technology has vastly increased the information available to patients and general gynecologists that can **improve patients' care**.
- The division continues its involvement with education for medical students and residents. Eve Feinberg, MD, and John Rinehart, MD, JD, PhD, have invited third-year medical students into their offices to view the daily happenings of busy REI practices. **REI faculty participates in the resident education program** and continues to present quarterly Grand Rounds. Dr. Rinehart continues to be involved with the REI training for the Saint Francis residents by giving weekly didactic lectures and by having third-year residents rotate through his practice.
- Dr. Rinehart is an active member of both the Department Executive Committee and the Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC). Because the area of reproductive medicine has consistently been at the forefront of medical ethics, Dr. Rinehart brings the **most recently published guidelines** about embryo transfer policies, as well as the definition of research, to the IEC. Both provide challenges to the practice of reproductive endocrinology. Dr. Rinehart became a member of the Institution Review Board, which oversees research performed at NorthShore University HealthSystem.
- The Division of REI has **provided education for both the community and the professional staff** so that new developments and improvements can be used by patients and doctors. Finally, the division continues its research activities.



John Rinehart, MD, Division Director (right) confers with William Banzhaf, MD, Senior Attending

Gynecological Pain and Minimally Invasive Surgery

2010 Highlights

- Howard Topel, MD, has been selected as the department representative for the NorthShore Health Practice-Based Research Network. The Network is seeking to leverage the vast data collected by our comprehensive network of NorthShore primary care providers using our electronic medical records system, Epic, to ask innovative questions about how to optimize clinical care. He also has established a collaborative relationship with Smith & Nephew to conduct operative hysteroscopic training for community clinicians. The first session held in November was very well-attended.
- Sangeeta Senapati, MD, MS, was on the program faculty for both the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' and American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists' (AAGL) annual meetings.
- Dr. Tu was the Program Chair for the International Pelvic Pain Society's 2010 Annual Meeting in Chicago, which attracted its highest attendance ever. His research was recognized with the 2010 Best Research Award at the International Pelvic Pain Society's 2010 annual meeting. He also chaired the Innovation Forum at the AAGL annual meeting and was on the program faculty for the International Association for the Study of Pain's World Congress.

Frank Tu, MD, MPH

Clinical Assistant Professor and Division Director

Clinical Mission and Services

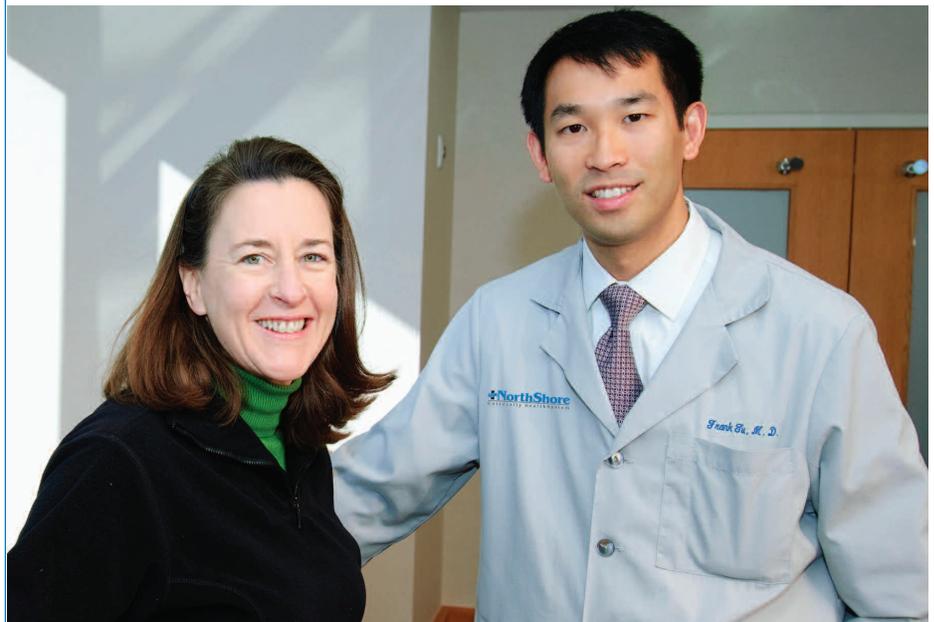
The Division of Gynecological Pain and Minimally Invasive Surgery (GPMIS) brings the skills and experience of subspecialists in female pelvic pain disorders and laparoscopic surgery to the NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) clinical, academic and research community.

2010 Achievements

- GPMIS continues to grow with a **48% increase** in clinical services provided at both of our sites in the last fiscal year. Both the Highland Park and Skokie Hospitals' Pelvic Health Centers are sites for clinical services.
- As a direct result of the new alliance with the University of Chicago, the division is pleased to have added a **neurobiologist, Kevin Hellman, PhD**, to the GPMIS research team. Dr. Hellman previously was a postdoctoral fellow for Peggy Mason, MD, who is a leading researcher in brain stem regulation of homeostasis. Dr. Hellman will be focusing on neural substrates of the development of chronic pelvic pain.
- GPMIS continues to be closely aligned with the two NorthShore Pelvic Health Centers—a uniquely **integrated complement of subspecialists** collaborating to provide coordinated services related to women's health issues. Team members include our own division plus Urogynecology, General Surgery and Gastroenterology, as well as Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Integrative Medicine and Radiology providing support services.
- Frank Tu, MD, MPH, along with Tina Gremore, PhD, from the NorthShore Department of Psychiatry, received a collaborative grant from NorthShore Research Institute to conduct a **clinical trial of mindfulness** for pelvic pain management.
- The division hosted an **endoscopic skills lab** for our new University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine residents in April at the NorthShore Skokie Hospital Endoscopic Skills Center.

48%

Increase in clinical services provided at the Highland Park and Skokie Hospitals' Pelvic Health Centers in 2010



Frank Tu, MD, Division Director (right) with patient, Noel Adachi

Urogynecology and Reconstructive Surgery

2010 Highlights

The academic achievements and honors of the Division of Urogynecology were especially noteworthy in 2010.

- The division had a high-level scholarship with 11 scientific presentations at national and international meetings. The members of the division published eight peer-reviewed scientific articles and received support for 12 funded research trials during the fiscal year.
- Roger Goldberg, MD, received the Women’s Health Foundation award of recognition and spoke at numerous international meetings on topics related to prolapse repair using mesh technologies.
- Sylvia Botros, MD, focused her attention on training the teachers to teach, as a faculty member of an exchange program in Kazakhstan and as the Chairwoman of the Annual Anatomy Workshop sponsored by the International Urogynecological Association.
- Janet Tomezsko, MD, was elected President of the Chicago Urogynecologic Society and is also the division’s representative with Sharecare, NorthShore’s Internet partner for patient-based medical inquiries.
- Peter Sand, MD, completed his term as President of the International Urogynecological Association and will continue to support the leadership group as immediate past president.

The Division of Urogynecology was also clinically productive with 1,792 new patient visits (see graph titled “Urogynecological New Patient Consults 2004–2010”) and more than 7,500 visits at all office sites.

Richard Silver, MD

Clinical Professor and Interim Division Director

Clinical Mission and Services

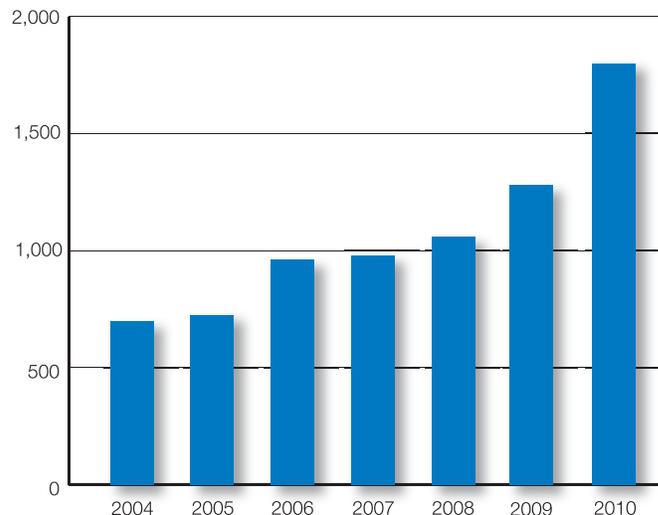
The Division of Urogynecology and Reconstructive Surgery is dedicated to improving the care of women with incontinence, painful bladder syndrome, voiding dysfunction and other pelvic floor abnormalities. The division is actively involved in the education of University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine residents and medical students and also maintains an American Board of Obstetricians and Gynecologist-approved three-year fellowship. The physicians and clinical staff are recognized nationally as a premier resource for clinical care and research in urogynecology.

2010 Achievements

- 2010 was a year of **additional growth and coordination of services** as the Division became more active as a member of the multidisciplinary Centers for Pelvic Health, located at NorthShore Highland Park and Skokie Hospital campuses. After a long and successful outreach relationship with Saint Joseph Medical Center in Chicago, the division redirected its faculty and staff to provide comprehensive clinical services across NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore). Saint Joseph residents continue to have the opportunity to complete an outpatient elective with our faculty. With new practice sites at the Highland Park and Skokie Hospital campuses, **four locations provide comprehensive patient access** throughout our geographical region. Patients can now be referred to multiple sites where they will receive the same high level of comprehensive services. Further, the physicians are actively collaborating with department members on their surgical cases at all of NorthShore’s operating room facilities.

Urogynecological New Patient Consults

2004–2010



The physicians and clinical staff are recognized nationally as a premier resource for clinical care and research in urogynecology.



Pelvic prolapse expert Dr. Roger Goldberg (right)

- The Division of Urogynecology **welcomed our newest fellow** in Female Pelvic Medicine, Juraj Letko, MD, whose prior training included an OB-GYN residency as well as urologic and surgical education. We have been delighted to have him join the division to round out the Fellowship class. The division is making plans with the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine to begin an elective for the fellows with their urogynecology faculty for the 2011–12 academic year. This will increase the number of attending subspecialists to seven from whom the fellows will learn during their clinical training.
- The division is contributing ideas to the **Medicare Innovation Center** under the leadership of Roger Goldberg, MD. This is a project sponsored by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), which seeks critical input from selected institutions to deliver more efficient and cost-effective services to patients. In this case, treatment paradigms are being developed for women with highly prevalent and potentially debilitating conditions related to pelvic pain and prolapse.

Perinatal Family Support Center

2010 Highlights

- Listed below are the top five reasons for initial referral to PFSC by proportion:

Reason	Number	Percentage
Mental health issues	560	32.0%
High-risk pregnancy	199	11.4%
Teen pregnancy	163	9.3%
Unanticipated ISCU admission	145	8.3%
Pregnancy loss: current, prior, possible	141	8.1%

- There was a 21.1% growth of total referral volume FY09–FY10.
- Eighty-seven antenatal consults with Neonatology were performed in anticipation of support, guidance and resource needs of obstetric patients whose unborn child is diagnosed with a fetal anomaly.

Nancy Eschbach, MSW, LCSW

Program Director

Clinical Mission and Services

The Perinatal Family Support Center (PFSC) provides a wide array of social and referral services to women and their families experiencing challenges related a pregnancy, birth, prematurity or perinatal loss. Patients and their families at both NorthShore Evanston and Highland Park Hospitals' obstetrical and pediatric units are able to access services of the PFSC.

2010 Achievements

- A total of **1,753 families accessed PFSC service** in 2010, which includes 324 patients and/or families at NorthShore Highland Park Hospital. The total also includes 217 teens, 80 pediatric patients and 25 gynecologic patients.
- 327 families or patients were provided with **assessment-based intervention** with the assistance of the Associate Board Emergency Family Fund.
- More than **5,500 books** were distributed through the Child and Adolescent Clinic to promote literacy through the Reach Out and Read program.
- The launch of the **Perinatal Comfort Care program** provided services to the initial families whose unborn child was diagnosed with a life-limiting condition.
- 178 families participated in **Sibling Tours** at both hospitals.
- More than 140 individuals participated in one of the monthly **Perinatal Loss Groups**.
- Preparations are initiated, including a **PFSC Institutional Review Board** presentation for a 2011 research project.
- The PFSC hosted 12 multidisciplinary **Lunch and Learn seminars** open to all care providers of women's health services.
- A new **partnership with North Shore Junior League** and PFSC enabled an education and advocacy "baby shower" for 20 low-income pregnant woman and their guests.
- The PFSC has developed an ongoing, well-respected internship site for University of Chicago, Loyola University, University of Illinois-Chicago and Dominican University **Master of Social Work students** completing their second year of study.
- PFSC staff members have served as **invited presenters** at multiple internal and external community organizations and sites.

Perinatal Depression Program

2010 Highlights

- Jo Kim, PhD, was invited to present data about the 866-364-MOMS hotline at the 2010 Marcé Society International Conference in October.
- Laura La Porte, LCSW, presented research findings at the 2010 annual meetings of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Central Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Jo Kim, PhD

Clinical Assistant Professor and Program Director

Clinical Mission and Services

Women are at greatly increased risk for clinical depression and its potentially devastating outcomes during the perinatal period. The Perinatal Depression Program (PDP) provides proactive universal screening for depression in both the pre- and postnatal periods using the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS). The program also provides an immediate, live telephone response to at-risk women by a trained and licensed professional 24/7/365 for information, advice or referral to an appropriate mental health provider.

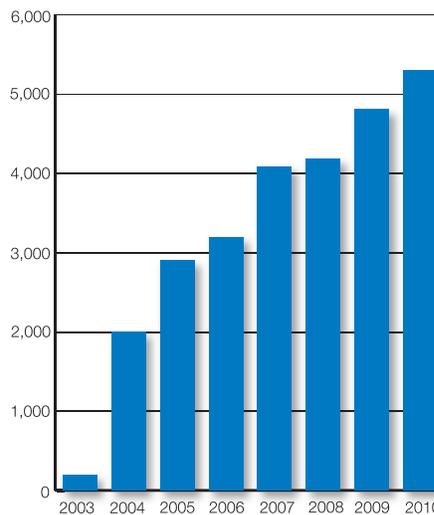
2010 Achievements

- A record number of women (5,290) were screened in 2010 resulting in **identification of 438 women at risk**. Likewise, the calls to the 866-364-MOMS hotline reached a new level of 733. (See graphs titled “Mood Screen Volumes” and “Hotline Call Volumes.”)
- 365 women received **psychological support** at no cost, and 48 percent of these women accepted community mental health referrals.
- Incorporation of the EPDS into the Epic electronic medical record enabled new, **enhanced research and quality assurance** projects by integrating OB Data Warehouse and PDP mood screen data.
- An initial pilot project to **extend postpartum depression screening** into the pediatric care setting was completed, and PDP staff are now working to expand this pilot program to additional pediatric sites.

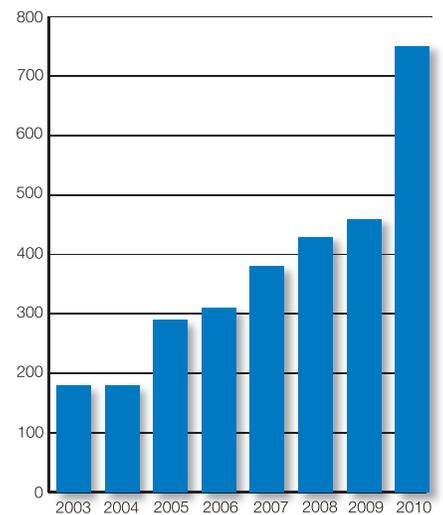


Jo Kim, PhD, Clinical Assistant Professor and Perinatal Depression Program Director

Mood Screen Volume



Hotline Call Volume



Obstetrics Coverage Program

Richard Adis, MD

Clinical Associate Professor, Program Director and Vice Chair, Highland Park Hospital

Loren Hutter, MD

Clinical Associate Professor and Program Director, Evanston Hospital

Clinical Mission and Services

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology has an unwavering commitment to safe and adequate on-site physician coverage for obstetrical patients. The Obstetrics Coverage Program at both of the NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) Labor and Delivery units has robust schedules to ensure that physicians are available for patients regardless of their ability to pay for care and to simultaneously provide outstanding oversight and teaching for our medical trainees.

2010 Achievements

- As the economic downturn and high unemployment rates continued in 2010, the NorthShore Obstetrics Coverage Program met the challenge of providing comprehensive healthcare to under-resourced women. More women presented requiring obstetrical care and with financial need than in prior years. The program **met this strong community need** and is poised to continue these service levels.
- More than 40 NorthShore physicians provided time and services to the program and fully **supported the shared academic objectives** of NorthShore and the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine.
- The Evanston Hospital Obstetrics Coverage Program has fully developed the **multidisciplinary model for comprehensive clinical coverage**. The redesigned staffing model uses mid-level providers such as Certified Nurse Midwives, Physician Assistants and Associate Resource Physicians.

478

babies delivered in 2010
in service to the Obstetrics
Coverage Program



Undergraduate Medical Education

NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology finished the 2009–10 academic year with excellent results and continued to make great progress with our new academic affiliate—the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. NorthShore, University of Chicago and the physicians of tomorrow agree that we have a strong start and measurable results.



Loren Hutter, MD, of the NorthShore faculty enhances the learning experience with one-to-one interaction.

H. Jacob Saleh, MD

Clinical Associate Professor and Site Director

In collaboration with the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, the NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) faculty is committed to ongoing excellence in undergraduate medical education. Students complete comprehensive learning objectives in healthcare for women in an atmosphere of discovery. In addition to the core third-year rotation, fourth-year students are offered unique month-long electives in general and high-risk obstetrics. Electives are expanding to include subspecialties in Urogynecology, Gynecologic Oncology, Fertility and Pelvic Pain. Increasing numbers of senior students with a strong interest in postgraduate training from medical schools across the United States and international programs are seeking placement at NorthShore.

2010 Achievements

- Several dimensions of the **NorthShore student rotations** contribute to a world-class learning experience. Faculty interest and involvement has led to a robust lecture schedule. Students look forward to meeting their learning objectives through lectures at NorthShore and interaction with attending faculty. Students also highly value the outpatient experience and look forward to an expanded experience in the next academic year as their rotations transition to six weeks in duration. Construction of the new CSTAR lab began in the fall of 2010. Its completion this spring will herald another dimension of NorthShore's commitment to student and resident learning.
- NorthShore faculty members Linda Holt, MD, Robert LaPata, MD, and J. Hani Saleh, MD, journeyed to central Bolivia for a **Solidarity Bridge surgical mission**. They performed 31 gynecologic surgical cases and served more than 100 outpatients in nine days. They were also able to teach Bolivian residents and medical students in the operating room and the classroom at the medical center and national teaching hospital, Hospital Materno-Infantil Germán Urquidi. The hospital director awarded Drs. Holt, LaPata and Saleh citations recognizing their efforts.
- In 2010 the family of Holden K. Farrar, Jr., MD, funded an **educational grant** to promote and recognize excellence in teaching among our faculty. The award honoring Dr. Farrar has been a long-standing tradition at Evanston Hospital, and this year's recipients were Michael Hughey, MD, and David Ouyang, MD.
- The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine recognized numerous NorthShore faculty for **teaching excellence** following the first full year of student feedback. Those recognized include: A. Michael Drachler, MD, Carol Ellman, MD, Michael Hughey, MD, Loren Hutter, MD, Jeremy Miller, MD, Fabio Ortega, MD, Gustavo Rodriguez, MD, Kerry Swenson, MD, and Dr. Hani Saleh. Student satisfaction scores continue to improve overall at both the NorthShore and Pritzker campuses. This has been accompanied by higher final exam scores as well as more students expressing interest in postgraduate training in obstetrics and gynecology.

Graduate Medical Education

In collaboration with the NorthShore academic affiliates, all 24 of the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine residents benefit from learning opportunities at NorthShore over their four-year training program.

Beth Plunkett, MD, MPH

Clinical Assistant Professor and Site Director

Sangeeta Senapati, MD, MS

Clinical Assistant Professor and Associate Site Director

In collaboration with the NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) academic affiliates, all 24 of the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine residents benefit from learning opportunities at NorthShore over their four-year training program. Throughout the academic year, three residents are assigned to gynecology service; two are assigned to obstetric service and two participate in night float labor and delivery rotation. To provide outpatient experience, each resident participates in a weekly continuity of care clinic at NorthShore. In addition to the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology has the opportunity to work with Saint Francis Hospital's Obstetrics and Gynecology residency training program with at least one resident on site year-round. The NorthShore program provides a robust clinical experience, as well as an emphasis on the practice of academic medicine, innovative educational advancements and multiple research opportunities.

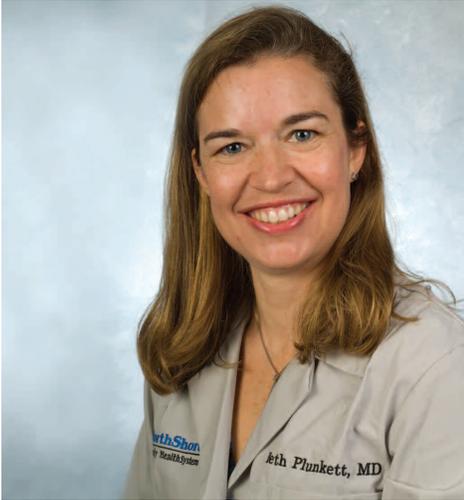
2010 Achievements

- The University of Chicago residents report **a rich training environment** at NorthShore, including low-risk and high-risk obstetrics. They participate in excellent opportunities in amniocentesis, operative vaginal delivery and breech delivery. Their gynecologic training includes a robust surgical case mix with many opportunities for complex, nonroutine cases. Minimally invasive cases are abundant, including robotics.
- The NorthShore Evanston Hospital Outpatient Department continues to play a critical educational role in the outpatient environment, providing all of the University of Chicago residents with their **“Continuity Clinic” experience**. NorthShore's dedication to this underserved population accomplishes the dual goals of meeting the medical needs of these patients while supporting the ambulatory education of our residents.
- With the Center for Simulation Technology and Academic Research (CSTAR) facilities at both the Evanston and Skokie Hospital campuses, NorthShore is prominent in **the field of simulation training**. CSTAR allows learners at all levels to

(continued)

Ian Grable, MD, MPH (center) consults with University of Chicago and Saint Francis residents.





Beth Plunkett, MD, MPH, Graduate Medical Education Site Director

enhance their skills in a risk-free environment. Our residents benefit from our faculty's commitment to innovative medical education. Ian Grable, MD, MPH, a NorthShore Maternal-Fetal Medicine subspecialist and leader in the field of patient safety, created a simulation-based training program for the incoming Obstetrics and Gynecology and Family Medicine residents at CSTAR at NorthShore Evanston Hospital. In addition to a didactic series, all residents participated in team training exercises and simulations on obstetric emergencies and common procedures. Sangeeta Senapati, MD, MS, Frank Tu, MD, MPH, and Howard Topel, MD, accomplished minimally invasive surgeons, initiated a program at the NorthShore Skokie Hospital simulation center to further develop the residents' laparoscopic skills. A brief didactic session precedes a hands-on session for skill drills that include tissue manipulation, laparoscopic suturing and use of various electro-surgical devices. The residents report that these experiences greatly enhance both their confidence and their knowledge in these important areas.

- NorthShore gynecologic oncologist Jean Hurteau, MD, was awarded the **Golden Apple teaching award** for his remarkable contribution to resident teaching in 2010.
- The University of Chicago Obstetrics and Gynecology **residents made impressive contributions** to our field in 2010. Melissa Wong, MD, class of 2012, was awarded the 2010 Humanism Award in recognition for her excellence in clinical care. Mark Hoffman, MD, class of 2010, was selected by the Pritzker School of Medicine medical students to receive the 2010 Golden Apple award for his outstanding contribution to medical student education.
- Several residents have chosen NorthShore faculty as research mentors for their third-year research projects. Reflecting the **breadth of research available** at NorthShore, their project areas span Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Perinatal Depression, Urogynecology and health services research.
- In recognition of the strength of the resident training program in partnership with the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, the American College of Graduate Medical Education has recently granted expansion of the program to a total of 28 with seven residents per class. We look forward to **additional enhancements** to the NorthShore educational program with the influx of new learners.

Fellowship Programs

Jean Hurteau, MD *Clinical Professor and Site Director*

Peter Sand, MD *Clinical Professor and Program Director*

Richard Silver, MD *Clinical Professor and Program Director*

Gynecologic Oncology

The NorthShore Division of Gynecologic Oncology has finalized plans for expansion of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology-approved fellowship with the University of Chicago. The multisite fellowships will be fully implemented in the 2011–12 academic year.

Urogynecology

The NorthShore Division of Urogynecology supports the advanced urogynecologic training for three fellowship positions certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Plans are being made to include clinical rotations at the University of Chicago.

Maternal-Fetal Medicine

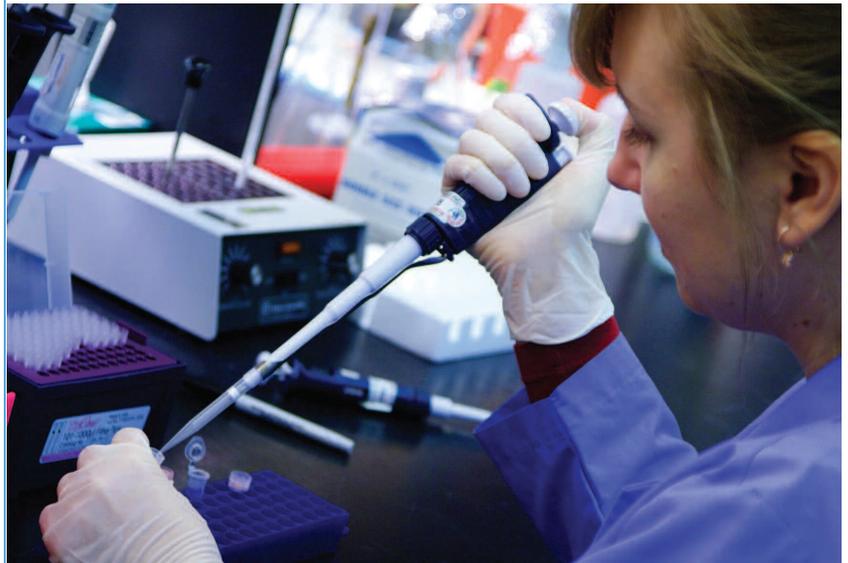
The NorthShore Maternal-Fetal Medicine faculty initiated training of the University of Chicago fellows at Evanston Hospital in 2010. Planning is under way to fully integrate the program between campuses and expand the curriculum for the 2011–12 academic year.

2010 Grants and Research Support

The NorthShore University HealthSystem Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology researchers received nearly \$2 million in support for their work in 2010 from National Institutes of Health, industry and institutional sources. Their multiyear aggregated funding commitments total more than \$6.5 million.

Mara Dinsmoor, MD, MPH
Lorraine Endres, MD
Kevin Hellman, PhD
Emmet Hirsch, MD
Jean Hurteau, MD
Jo Kim, PhD

Beth Plunkett, MD, MPH
Gustavo Rodriguez, MD
Peter Sand, MD
Larry Thaete, PhD
Frank Tu, MD, MPH



2010 Publications

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Ilievski, V., **Agrawal, V., Hirsch, E.** (2010) Interaction Between Platelet Activating Factor (PAF) and Toll-Like Receptor Signaling Pathways in a Mouse Model of Bacterially Induced Preterm Birth. Annual Meeting of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Chicago, Illinois.

Batza, J. (2009) Perinatal Mood Disorders. Desde El Principio, Highland Park, Illinois.

Jirschele, K., Gamble, T., **Botros, S., Sand, P.** (2010) Survey of Incontinence Screening Practices Among Primary Care Physicians. 31st Annual Meeting of the American Urogynecology Society, Long Beach, California.

Endres, L., Mueller, M., Gibbs, J., Healy, P., Grossman, N. (2010) OB Case Discussion. NorthShore University HealthSystem Obstetrics and Gynecology Grand Rounds, Evanston, Illinois.

Eschbach, N., O'Donovan, E., Winslow, J., Batza, J., Roverud, S. (2009) The Emotional Journey of Parents. NorthShore University HealthSystem OB/Pediatric Grand Rounds, Evanston, Illinois.

Eschbach, N., O'Donovan, E., Winslow, J., Batza, J. (2009) The Emotional Journey of Parents. NorthShore University HealthSystem Neonatology Conference, Evanston, Illinois.

Eschbach, N., O'Donovan, E., Winslow, J., Batza, J. (2010) The Emotional Journey of Parents. NorthShore University HealthSystem Infant Special Care Unit Nursing Conference, Evanston, Illinois.

Gafni-Kane, A., Du, H., Nguyen, A., Vu, M., Goldberg, R., Sand, P., Botros, S. (2010) Functional Bladder Capacity as an Objective Measure of Response to Intravesical Dimethyl Sulfoxide for the Treatment of Newly Diagnosed Interstitial Cystitis. Annual Meeting of the Society for Urodynamics and Female Urology, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Gamble, T., Du, H., **Goldberg, R., Nguyen, A., Vu, M., Gafni-Kane, A., Botros, S., Sand, P.** (2010) Retropubic Midurethral Sling Vs. Bladder Neck Sling in the Treatment of Low Pressure Urethra. 36th Annual Society of Gynecologic Surgeons Scientific Meeting, Tucson, Arizona.

Gamble, T., Du, H., **Goldberg, R., Nguyen, A., Vu, M., Gafni-Kane, A., Botros, S., Sand, P.** (2010) TVT Vs. Bladder Neck Sling in the Treatment of Low Pressure Urethra. The Joint Annual Meeting of the International Continence Society and International Urogynecological Association, Toronto, Canada.

Goldin, N., Rizzato, S. (2010) This is Not What We Were Expecting: A Focus on Prenatal Decisions. Perinatal Loss and Infant Death Association National Conference, Alexandria, Virginia.

Goldin, N. (2009 and 2010) Perinatal Loss Seminar. Northwestern Perinatal Network, Chicago, Illinois.

Hirsch, E. (2009) Novel Mechanisms in Inflammation-Induced Preterm Labor: For Whom the Bell Tolls. University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology Grand Rounds, Chicago, Illinois.

Hirsch, E. (2010) The Human Papilloma Virus (HPV): What You Should Know, What You Can Do. Meeting of the Chicago Chapter of Hadassah, Skokie, Illinois.

Hirsch, E. (2010) Toll-Like Receptor Signaling in the Pathogenesis and Prevention of Prematurity. 57th Annual Meeting of the Society for Gynecologic Investigation Minisymposium: Inflammation, Toll-Like Receptors and Preterm Birth, Orlando, Florida.

Hirsch, E. (2010) Reducing Perineal Lacerations With Operative Vaginal Delivery in a Labor and Delivery Unit: Principles, Practice, Persuasion. Wayne State University School of Medicine Special Symposium, Detroit, Michigan.

Hirsch, E. (2010) Divergence, Convergence, Synergy and Suppression in the Mechanisms of Preterm Labor. Perinatal Research Branch symposium, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Detroit, Michigan.

Hirsch, E. (2010) Born Too Soon: Insights Into the Molecular Pathogenesis of Infection-Induced Preterm Labor. Weill Cornell Medical Center Grand Rounds, New York, New York.

(continued)

2010 Presentations and Abstracts (continued)

Hurteau, J. (2010) Prevention and Genetics. Gynecologic Cancer Foundation 2010 Ovarian Cancer Survivors Course, Evanston, Illinois.

Hurteau, J. (2010) CA 125 Level; Is It Really That Important? A Critical Look at New Data. Gynecologic Cancer Foundation 2010 Ovarian Cancer Survivors Course, Evanston, Illinois.

Hurteau, J. (2010) A Randomized Phase III Trial of Tamoxifen vs. Thalidomide. Society of Gynecologic Oncologists 15th Annual Winter Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Kim, J., Garfield, C., Suhr, K., Kubilius, R., **Silver, R.** (2010) Perinatal Depression Content in Electronic and Print Textbooks From Multiple Medical Specialties. Annual Meeting of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, San Francisco, California.

Kim, J., La Porte, L., Adams, M., Silver, R. (2010) Does an Automated Electronic Medical Record Reminder Increase Antepartum Depression Screening Rates? Annual Meeting of the Central Association for Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Kim, J., La Porte, L., Silver, R. (2010) Help Is a Phone Call Away: Characteristics of Calls to a Perinatal Depression Hotline. Biennial Meeting of the Marcé Society, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



Jean Hurteau, MD, at the Gynecologic Cancer Foundation 2010 Ovarian Cancer Survivors Course

La Porte, L., Kim, J., Silver, R. (2010) Why Do Patients Call a Perinatal Depression Hotline and What Benefits Do They Perceive? Annual Meeting of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, San Francisco, California.

Gamble, T., Du, H., **Nguyen, A., Vu, M., Botros, S., Sand, P., Goldberg, R.** (2010) A Comparison of Sexual Function and Quality of Life in Two Augmented Hysteropexy Techniques. 36th Annual Society of Gynecologic Surgeons Scientific Meeting, Tucson, Arizona.

Gamble, T., Du, H., **Nguyen, A., Vu, M., Botros, S., Sand, P., Goldberg, R.** (2010) A Comparison of Anatomical Outcomes of Hysteropexy With Acellular Cadaveric Dermal Graft Vs. Polypropylene Mesh Augmentation. 36th Annual Society of Gynecologic Surgeons Scientific Meeting, Tucson, Arizona.

Gamble, T., Du, H., **Nguyen, A., Vu, M., Gafni-Kane, A., Botros, S., Sand, P., Goldberg, R.** (2010) Functional Outcomes of Two Augmented Hysteropexy Techniques. The Joint Annual Meeting of the International Continence Society and International Urogynecological Association, Toronto, Canada.

Gamble, T., Du, H., **Nguyen, A., Vu, M., Gafni-Kane, A., Sand, P., Botros, S., Goldberg, R.** (2010) Anatomic Outcomes of Hysteropexy With Anterior Acellular Cadaveric Dermal Graft Vs. Polypropylene Mesh Augmentation. Joint Annual Meeting of the International Continence Society and International Urogynecological Association, Toronto, Canada.

Plunkett, B., Kaushal, K., Ducsay, C., Hanson, K., Myers, D. (2010) Long-Term Hypoxia (LTH) in Sheep Promotes Adaptive Changes in Placental Expression of Key Angiogenic Mediators. Society for Gynecologic Investigation Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida.

Plunkett, B., Morgan, G., Doll, J., Chung, C., Wecker, J., Cornwell, M., Crawford, S. (2010) Adipose Triglyceride Lipase (ATGL) Regulates Lipolysis and Migration in Microvascular Endothelial Cells. Society for Gynecologic Investigation Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida.

Richman, J., Shim, S., Waite, N. (2009) Cultural Competency in Healthcare. NorthShore University HealthSystem Medical Residency Lecture Series, Evanston, Illinois.

Sand, P., MacDiarmid, S., Thomas, H., Caramelli, K., Hoel, G. (2010) No Effect of Severity of Incontinence on the Efficacy of Oxybutynin Topical Gel (OTG) in Improving Continence. Southeast Section of the American Urological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California.

Sand, P. (2010) Efficacy of Oxybutynin Chloride Topical Gel (OTG) in Improving Continence: Effect of Baseline Symptom Severity. 68th Annual Meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Section of the American Urological Association, Farmington, Pennsylvania.

Jirschele, K., Gamble, T., **Sand, P., Botros, S.** (2010) Survey of Incontinence Screening Practices Among Primary Care Physicians. The Joint Annual Meeting of the International Continence Society and International Urogynecological Association, Toronto, Canada.

Senapati, S. (2010) Lessons Learned From Microlaparoscopy and Single Site Techniques. 39th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Senapati, S. (2010) Incisions, Retractors, Energy Sources—Can a Laparotomy Still Be Minimally Invasive? 39th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Senapati, S. (2010) Jackpot!..? Life After Fellowship. 39th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Senapati, S. (2010) Methodologies for Tissue Handling and Extraction. Annual Comprehensive Workshop on Minimally Invasive Gynecology for Residents and Fellows, Chicago, Illinois.

Luo, K., **Thaete, L., Qu, X., Neerhof, M.** (2010) Impact of Maternal vs. Fetal Nitric Oxide Deficiency on Fetal Growth in eNOS Gene Knockout Mice. Society for Gynecologic Investigation, Orlando, Florida.

Luo, K., **Thaete, L., Qu, X., Neerhof, M.** (2010) Endothelin Plays a Prominent Role in the Pathophysiology of FGR in Pregnant eNOS $-/-$ Mice. Society for Gynecologic Investigation, Orlando, Florida.

Thaete, L., Khan, S., Neerhof, M. (2010) Endothelin Expression in Ischemia/Reperfusion-Induced Fetal Growth Restriction in the Rat. The International Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy, Melbourne, Australia.

Thaete, L., Khan, S., Synowiec, S., Neerhof, M. (2010) Maternally Administered Endothelin Receptor Antagonist Has Limited Access to the Fetal Compartment. International Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy, Melbourne, Australia.

Luo, K., **Thaete, L., Neerhof, M.** (2010) Improved Fetal Weights in Sequential Generations in eNOS $-/-$ Mice. International Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy, Melbourne, Australia.

Goldstein, G., **Tu, F.,** Beaumont, J., **Senapati, S.,** Du, H. (2010) Does Regular Physical Activity Protect Women From Development of Endometriosis? Annual Meeting of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, San Francisco, California.

Tu, F., Pozolo, K., Senapati, S., Epstein, A., Melnyk, A. (2010) Sonographic Quantitative Sensory Testing of the Bladder. Annual Meeting of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, San Francisco, California.

Tu, F., Goldstein, G., Du, H., **Senapati, S., Pozolo, K.** (2010) Prior Oral Contraceptive Use Is Associated With the Risk of Endometriosis Conditional on Parity: Results From a Longitudinal, Population-Based Survey. 39th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Tu, F. (2010) Pelvic Organ Cross-Talk: Untangling the Clinician's Dilemma in Pelvic Pain. University of Chicago Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology Grand Rounds, Chicago, Illinois.

Tu, F. (2010) Managing IBS/PBS. International Pelvic Pain Society, Chicago, Illinois.

Tu, F. (2010) Pelvic Organ Cross-Talk: Untangling the Clinician's Dilemma in Pelvic Pain. Midwest Pain Society, Chicago, Illinois.

Tu, F. (2010) Urogenital Pain. 13th World Congress of the International Association for the Study of Pain, Montreal, Canada.

Tu, F. (2010) What Constitutes Female Urogenital Pain? Pain of Urogenital Origin Workshop on Pelvic Pain, 13th World Congress of the International Association for the Study of Pain, Montreal, Canada.

Tu, F. (2010) Endometriosis: Why Is It Painful in Some Women? Pain in Women Workshop, 13th World Congress of the International Association for the Study of Pain, Montreal, Canada.

Tu, F. (2010) Pelvic Organ Cross-Talk: Untangling the Clinician's Dilemma in Pelvic Pain. NorthShore University HealthSystem Obstetrics and Gynecology Grand Rounds, Evanston, Illinois.

Tu, F. (2010) Pelvic and Visceral Pain: Mechanisms and Management. 8th Annual University of Wisconsin Comprehensive Pain Board Review Symposium, Madison, Wisconsin.

2010 Growth

The Department realized important growth in new members in 2010. Each is playing a critical role in realizing our goals of outstanding clinical care, leading academics, and recognized research.

Jane Blair, BS, received her bachelor's degree from North Park University. She is serving as Research Assistant in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Therese Doyle, CNM, MS, received her Master of Science in Nursing from University of Illinois at Chicago, Nurse Midwifery Program. She serves as a certified nurse midwife for the Department at Evanston Hospital's Labor and Delivery unit.

Darryn Dunbar, RNC, APN, CNM, MS, received his Master of Science in Maternal-Child Nursing and Nurse Midwifery from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He serves as a certified nurse midwife for the Department at Evanston Hospital's Labor and Delivery unit.

Anna Gonzalez, MD, received her medical degree from University of Texas Southwestern Medical School. She completed her residency at Parkland Hospital. She is currently in the University of Chicago's Maternal-Fetal Medicine Fellowship program.

Deanna Graves, RN, MSN, CNM, received her Master of Science in Nursing from Marquette University, Nurse Midwifery Program. She serves as a certified nurse midwife for the Department at Evanston Hospital's Labor and Delivery unit.

Kevin Hellman, PhD, completed his graduate training at the University of Pennsylvania. He completed his research fellowship at Medical College of Wisconsin. He is a Post Doctoral Research Fellow in the neurobiology of pelvic pain.

Juraj Letko, MD, received his medical degree from Comenius University Medical School in Bratislava, Slovakia. He completed his residency at University Hospital Nitra, Slovakia. He is pursuing Urogynecologic fellowship training in the NorthShore University HealthSystem Medical Group with Drs. Sylvia Botros, Roger Goldberg, Adam Gafni-Kane, Peter Sand, Janet Tomezko and Andy Vu.

Jay Levin, MD, received his medical degree from University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He completed his residency at Northwestern University Medical Center. He is currently in practice at Reproductive Medical Institute with Drs. John Rinehart and Carolyn Coulam.

Nausheen Zaidi, MD, received her medical degree from Louisiana State University Medical Center School of Medicine. She completed her residency at the University of Illinois Medical Center at Chicago. She is currently in the University of Chicago's Maternal-Fetal Medicine Fellowship program.

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