President’s Message

Maternal Mortality - In my research for this talk, I reviewed and evaluated all the current data and I enlisted one of the leaders in Maternal Fetal Medicine to join me in speaking on this important problem.

For all my research, one consequence of maternal mortality that is unmeasurable is the void left for the child, the partner, the family when a mother dies.

For a mother is the only person on earth Who can divide her love among 10 children And each child still has all her love.

Even one mother lost is a tragedy. Our focus and our efforts are on what WE can do to about this. I am very pleased to welcome Robert Debbs, D.O. as my co-speaker for the May President’s Night Program. Our topic is “Maternal Mortality in the USA and the World, WE can do better!”

“Maternal Mortality in the USA and the World, WE can do better!”

Dr. Debbs is Director, Pennsylvania Hospital Maternal Fetal Medicine Network Clinical Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania. He received his medical degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and has been in practice for more than 20 years.

Upcoming Lecture: “Maternal Mortality in the US and world, WE can do better!”

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Dipak Delvadia, D.O.
Clinical Assistant Professor Ob/Gyn, Associate Residency Director, Drexel University College of Medicine

Robert Debbs, D.O.
Director, University of Pennsylvania Maternal-Fetal Medicine Network

6:00pm Cocktails
6:30pm Buffet & Program
NEW VENUE!
The National Liberty Museum
321 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the slate of nominees for the following offices:

President
George Neubert, M.D.

President Elect
Peter Schnatz, D.O.

Vice President
Donald DeBrakeleer, D.O.

Secretary
Norman Brest, M.D.

Treasurer
Harish Sedheev, M.D.

Member at Large
Stephen Rubin, M.D.
“Clinical Report of one year’s obstetrical work at the Preston Retreat” by Joseph Price, M.D. (Excerpt)

“The clinical memoranda presented in this report of the obstetrical work at the Preston Retreat during the year 1896 contains tabulated statements of all the cases delivered during that period. There have been two hundred and forty-five deliveries. There has not been a maternal death. Since I assumed charge of the Preston Retreat there have been seven hundred and forty-five deliveries with one maternal death, due to chronic Bright’s disease, and fully reported in the American Gynaecological and Obstetrical Journal, February, 1896…

…The history of the one case of placenta praevia is as follows: Mrs. V., aged thirty, III.-gravida, German… was attacked with flooding, which was not accompanied by pain. Examination disclosed placenta praevia centralis, the smaller segment of the placenta extending about an inch beyond the left margin of the internal os. The loss of blood was about one pint when the bleeding ceased. …The patient was etherized, the smaller segment of the placenta was separated, and a living child was delivered by podalic version. Immediately after the delivery of the placenta profuse and persistent bleeding occurred, which a hot douche failed to control and which required a firm utero-vaginal tampon of iodoform gauze. …The patient’s convalescence was afebrile, and mother and child were discharged in good condition.”

Presented January 7, 1897 by Dr. Richard C. Norris, MD

Commentary from Today’s Perspective...

Dr. Norris described the goal of hospital maternity care at the Preston Retreat in the last sentence quoted above, “mother and child were discharged in good condition.” The Preston Retreat was a busy lying-in hospital intended to provide care to the “indigent married women of good moral character.” This statistical reporting is an interesting illustration of early quality improvement work. The mortality rate above translates to about 130 deaths per 100,000 women in an age without antibiotics, blood transfusion, anti-hypertensives, or safe Cesarean delivery. The most notable progress made in this era was that of antisepsis, or a “careful toilet”. Routine and thorough handwashing and proper sanitization of instruments was given a lot of credit, and Dr. Norris was meticulous in assuring that these procedures were followed at the Retreat.

Interestingly, in 1895, some controversy about the veracity of these statistics arose and Dr. Joseph Price, a prominent and respected gynecologic surgeon, exchanged some scathing words with Dr. Norris via letters to the American Gynaecological and Obstetrical Journal.
"Reminiscence"
by Arnold Cohen, M.D., Past President

The Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia gave me one of the most treasured experiences of my life. Obviously it comes after marrying Marcia, my wife of now 49 years, having my 3 kids be successful adults, and now having 6 wonderful grandchildren, but it is right up there. It was even more wonderful than having the honor of being the President of the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia, being honored by the Einstein Society, and getting 2 “holes in one”. It was May 8, 2014, the night of the President’s address by Albert El-Roeiy. That night, unexpectedly, I saw many of my former residents who I helped train over the years at Penn and Einstein come to the Ob Society. I thought seeing all these successful practitioners was great in and of itself. But what happened afterwards was truly a highlight of my professional career. Guy Hewlett, a former resident, got up to the podium and started speaking about the J. Robert Wilson Award. J. Robert Wilson was a “Giant” in Obstetrics and Gynecology because of his being an “active teacher throughout his more than 50 years in academic medicine and many people who learned from him will forever be indebted to him for their success in their professional careers.” He said this award is only “Awarded to a member of the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia who has worked to further the educational mission of the Society, and through commitment, dedication and service has enhanced this Society with his or her extraordinary contributions”. At that time my wife walked in. I wondered why she was there. It was then I realized how special this moment was, and will always be. I never thought of me being honored by my peers in such a way.

By receiving an award that recognized my commitment to service and training future doctors to be the best that they can be is more than I could have ever hoped for. My heart started beating fast (not A Fib) and I was then “shocked” when my name appeared up on the screen. As many of you know, I am rarely speechless. All I could do was hug Marcia, and then Guy. I don’t even think I could get words out of my mouth when I was called to the podium to put the J. Robert Wilson Medallion around my neck. I was overwhelmed. It was truly an extraordinary experience that I will never forget, an experience that the Obstetric Society of Philadelphia gave to me that will give me lasting memories as my career of teaching future doctors and serving patients comes to its conclusion. I know that there are doctors out there who will continue to say to themselves “What would Arnie do?” What more can one ask.

These are my “Reminiscences”. I will be eternally grateful to the Ob Society for giving me this honor, and these memories.
April Meeting

Members and Emeritus may view the lecture on our website www.obphila.org. We hope to see you in May at our NEW VENUE - The National Liberty Museum!

Dr. Barbara Schindler signs The Book!
Dr. Mercier signs The Book!
Dr. Miranda signs The Book!
Dr. Nikki Salvo signs The Book!

Medical College of Pennsylvania!!

Dr. Delvadia - Ob Society President 2016 -2017

Drs. Gold & Cohen

Caring Together is a Program of Drexel University's College of Medicine, a nationally recognized Center for Excellence for Addiction and Medicine.

Founding Mothers of the Caring Together Program

Caring Together Founders - Drs. Schindler, Ntoso & Honebrink
Legislation Affecting our Members...

A bill to reform the prior authorization process in Pennsylvania will soon be introduced by State Rep. Marguerite Quinn (R-Bucks). The Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED) is urging physicians to contact their House member to ask that they sign onto the bill as a co-sponsor.

“We all agree that the existing prior authorization process is extremely burdensome and continues to create unnecessary delays in patient care.

State Representative Marguerite Quinn's prior authorization legislation to be introduced soon would increase transparency and consistency in prior authorization criteria and improve response times for prior authorization determinations.

More importantly the passage of this legislation will ensure that patients get the care their physician recommends in a timely and cost effective manner. Please reach out to your State Representative to encourage co-sponsorship of this important legislation impacting your patients.”

Mark Austerberry, Executive Director Philadelphia County Medical Society

PAMED has identified prior authorization reform as one of its top priorities in 2017.

As you know, health plans require prior authorization for certain medical tests, procedures and medications for those services to qualify for insurance coverage. While the process is intended to minimize the overuse of health care services, it often becomes extremely burdensome due to a lack of standardization and transparency.

Rep. Quinn’s bill would:

- Increase transparency and consistency in prior authorization criteria
- Establish standards for and reduce the overuse of prior authorization
- Lessen manual processes and enhance the electronic exchange of information
- Develop a standard prior authorization form
- Improve response times for prior authorization determinations

PAMED’s Voter Voice is a quick and easy way to contact your state representative member on this issue. Use the state medical Society’s weblink feature (weblink address below) to look up your House member, find talking points on the issue, and email him/her in a matter of minutes.

https://www.votervoice.net/PAMED/Campaigns/51066/Respond

It is strongly recommended that you include your own experiences and frustrations with the prior authorization process.
Maternal Mortality Review in Philadelphia: A History

Marjorie Angert, DO, FACOG, MPH

We have been looking at maternal deaths in the City of Philadelphia for many years. Steve Smith, MD, when Secretary of PA-ACOG, wrote of the early attempts at reviewing maternal deaths in the city. In the 1930s, the Philadelphia County Medical Society and the Philadelphia Health League studied these cases. The Obstetrical Society was then given the responsibility of reviewing the cases and continued this process for several decades. It stopped because of the medico-legal climate and the decrease in the number of deaths.

The Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Division of Maternal and Child Health began the review of maternal deaths in 2007. They identified the Pennsylvania state statutes that protect members and the proceedings from discovery in a civil suit. A staff was formed and the initial meeting of physicians, nurses, social workers, administrators and advocates took place. The process was defined as confidential, anonymous and non-judgmental.

The Philadelphia Maternal Mortality Review moved to the Medical Examiner’s Office in 2010. The team is now made up of Ob-Gyns, including Maternal Fetal Medicine, a nurse practitioner, a nurse midwife, a health consultant, a nutritionist, the clergy, health administrators, a critical care specialist, an anesthesiologist, a psychiatrist, and a social worker. It includes members from all of the delivering hospitals in the city. We identify the deaths using ICD-10 ‘O’ codes and by linking birth and fetal and infant death certificates with a woman’s death. The addition of Maternal History Box on the Death Certificate has helped identify women. Autopsy data is also used to identify women who are pregnant.

The Healthy People 2010 goal was to reduce maternal deaths to 4.3 deaths/100,000 live births. In Philadelphia we have approximately 23,000 births each year and a significantly higher maternal mortality rate of 27.4 deaths/100,000. The Maternal Mortality Review continues to identify and make an impact on issues that can reduce this rate.
JOIN THE WOMEN PHYSICIANS’ CAUCUS OF
THE PENNSYLVANIA MEDICAL SOCIETY

Sherry L Blumenthal, M.D.

Over 50% of the US population is female, and 47% of medical students are now female. Medical Societies and academic institutions are mostly male-dominated. The Women Physicians’ Caucus is designed to facilitate women sitting at the table in equal representation with their male peers. The unique issues faced by women in the field of medicine in terms of discrimination, sexual harassment, balancing family and work responsibilities, child-bearing, breast-feeding and other health issues need open discussion in the larger medical community.

Our goals are:

1. Giving women the ability to network effectively with their peers.
2. Giving women the ability to voice their specific concerns, e.g., practicing medicine during child-bearing years and handling related issues.
3. Allowing women to share concerns regarding sex discrimination, including wage inequality, and how to work to eliminate this problem.
4. Mentor women to help them practice medicine in a way that is consistent with their identities as women throughout all specialties.
5. Educate and encourage women physicians in paths to leadership roles in organized and academic medicine.
6. Emphasize and advocate for health policies that consider the specific needs of women and women physicians.

Join and/or get information on the WPC at www.pamedsoc.org/WPC.

“If YOU ARE NOT AT THE TABLE, YOU MAY BE ON THE MENU.” Anon.

The Clinician Consultation Center answers your questions about the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS and bloodborne pathogen exposure management. Our team of expert physicians, nurses, and clinical pharmacists support healthcare providers in delivering high-quality care to patients of all ages. Our free and confidential services are for all clinical experience levels.

Expert advice on:
HIV/AIDS Management
(800) 933-3413 | 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. EST, M-F
PEP: Post-Exposure Prophylaxis
(888) 449-4911 | 9 a.m. – 2 a.m. EST, Seven days a week
Perinatal HIV
(888) 449-8765 | 24 hours, Seven days a week
PrEP: Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis
(855) 449-7777 | (855) HIV-PrEP | 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. EST, M-F

Online consultation services: ncc.ucsf.edu

The CCC, a component of the AIDS Education and Training Centers, is located at the University of San Francisco, California/San Francisco General Hospital and is funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
To Colleagues and Friends,

In 2018 the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia will be 150 years old. It was established in June 1868 when a group of nine obstetricians who had been meeting to discuss women’s health issues and cases formalized the creation and foundation of the Society.

Our Society is the third oldest Obstetrical Society in the United States and was one of the founding contributors to the historical collections of the College of Physicians and the famous Mutter Museum.

Throughout our existence we have been committed to education, sharing of knowledge, and promotion of women’s health. Our mission statement exemplifies our goals:

“To embrace our legacy, foster collegiality, and share our expertise to improve the health of women in Philadelphia and beyond”

We’ve worked hard over the last 150 years to support and provide quality education to attending physicians, residents, and medical students of the Tri-State Area- Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware while promoting advocacy and our perspective.

Going forward, we want to make sure that the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia continues to exist not only for another 150 years, but for as long as we have obstetrician/gynecologists caring for women of all ages.

In order to accomplish this goal, we are asking current and emeritus members to consider a special donation to the Society to our 150th Celebration Fund. The money donated to this fund will be maintained and invested to ensure the future of the Society and used to continue to support the quality programs that we have provided for the last 150 years. Consider a named donation in Honor or Memory of a loved one, colleague, or special event.

We also welcome your ideas and suggestions for maintaining the Society. As we look back on 150 years, we are acutely aware that we need to look forward as well to embrace current and future clinicians and their needs or concerns. Please contact us with your thoughts. We look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your continued commitment and dedication to the Obstetrical Society.

Thank you very much.

The Council of the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia
The Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia
Presents
*FREE*

Immediate Post-Pregnancy
Long-Acting Reversible Contraception Summit
(PP-LARC)

WHEN: Saturday, May 20, 2017
1100 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

WHERE: Zubrow Auditorium at Pennsylvania Hospital
8th & Spruce Streets, Philadelphia, PA

~ Get officially trained in Nexplanon insertion and removal
~ Come and learn how to appropriately bill for LARC
~ Understand who is a candidate for immediate post-delivery LARC
~ Skills to Implement LARC Immediately Post-Pregnancy
~ Hands on skills and more!

*You MUST RSVP! - Please RSVP to obphila@yahoo.com

Refreshments will be served.

If you have anything to add to our newsletter, please contact Teri Wiseley at obphila@yahoo.com. Your input to the newsletter is greatly appreciated.

Cell: 484-343-8199
Email: obphila@yahoo.com
Address: Theresa B. Wiseley, CMM
Executive Secretary
Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia
308 Rolling Creek Rd.
Swarthmore, PA 19081
May 11, 2017

**President’s Night**

Robert Debbs, DO  
Director, University of Pennsylvania Maternal-Fetal Medicine Network

Dipak Delvadia, DO  
Clinical Assistant Professor Ob/Gyn, Associate Residency Director, Drexel University College of Medicine

_The Evidence, the Art, and the Obstetrician_

**Resident Education Day - Friday, May 5, 2017**

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Thomas Jefferson Hospital

The venue for the evening program is at a NEW location:

The National Liberty Museum
321 Chestnut Street

Cocktails – 6:00 p.m.
Dinner and Program - 6:30 p.m.
Free parking in the lot next to the PCMS Building

Please visit the website for registration information.

UPCOMING SOCIETY EVENTS

The Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia Presents:

The 50th Annual Resident Education Day
and
The 40th Annual Resident Bowl
Friday, May 5, 2017

_Hosted by Thomas Jefferson University Hospital_

***************

Immediate Post-Pregnancy Long-Acting Reversible Contraception Summit (PP-LARC)

Saturday, May 20, 2017  1100 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Zubrow Auditorium at Pennsylvania Hospital
8th & Spruce Streets, Philadelphia, PA
11:00 am to 1:00 pm: Didactic session
1:00 pm to 1:30 pm: Lunch
1:30 pm to 3:30 pm: Hands-on session

Register via email at obphila@yahoo.com. There is no fee to attend HOWEVER, we must have an accurate headcount for workstations, materials, CME, etc.
### OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA

**Council Members: 2016-2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>President</strong></td>
<td>Dipak Delvadia, DO</td>
<td>DUCOM - Dept. OB/GYN 245 North 15th Street Philadelphia, PA 19102-1192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Immediate Past President</strong></td>
<td>Helen M. Widzer, MD</td>
<td>Women’s Associates for Healthcare Einstein Healthcare Network 633 W. Germantown Pike Suite 203 Plymouth Meeting, PA 19440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Past President - 2nd Year</strong></td>
<td>Jason Baxter, MD</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferson University 833 Chestnut Street, 1st Floor Philadelphia, PA 19107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>President Elect</strong></td>
<td>A. George Neubert, MD</td>
<td>Geisinger Health System 100 N. Academy Ave. Danville, PA 17522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vice President</strong></td>
<td>Peter F. Schnatz, DO</td>
<td>The Reading Hospital and Medical Center Department of OB/GYN 6th Ave &amp; Spruce Street West Reading, PA 19611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Secretary - 3rd Year</strong></td>
<td>Sherry L. Blumenthal, MD</td>
<td>Pennsylvania Hospital 2 Pine east 800 Spruce Street Philadelphia, PA 19107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Treasurer</strong></td>
<td>Peter F. Schnatz, DO</td>
<td>The Reading Hospital and Medical Center Department of OB/GYN 6th Ave &amp; Spruce Street West Reading, PA 19611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Resident Education Liaison</strong></td>
<td>Guy Hewlett, MD</td>
<td>Cooper University Hospital Dept of Ob/Gyn One Cooper Plaza Camden NJ 08103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medical/Legal Committee</strong></td>
<td>Jane Porcelan, MD</td>
<td>Lankenau Medical Building, East 100 East Lancaster Avenue, Suite 561 Wynnewood, PA 19096-3450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Resident Education Committee</strong></td>
<td>Jasjit K. Beausang, MD</td>
<td>DUCOM – Dept. OB/GYN 245 North 15th Street Philadelphia, PA 19102-1192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Resident Representative</strong></td>
<td>Larry Z. Dr.</td>
<td>Planned Parenthood of Delaware 625 N. Shipley St. Wilmington DE 19801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Newslette Staff</strong></td>
<td>Sumra Tayebaly, MD</td>
<td>Albert El-Roeiy, MD Crozer-Chester Medical Center One Medical Center Boulevard Upland, PA 19013-3995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Media</strong></td>
<td>Aasta D. Mehta, MD</td>
<td>Albert El-Roeiy, MD Crozer-Chester Medical Center One Medical Center Boulevard Upland, PA 19013-3995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Website</strong></td>
<td>Donald DeBrakeleeer, DO</td>
<td>919 Conestoga Road Building 1, Suite #104 Rosemont, PA 19010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bylaws</strong></td>
<td>Joan H. Zeidman, MD</td>
<td>919 Conestoga Road Building 1, Suite #104 Rosemont, PA 19010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foundation</strong></td>
<td>Arnold W. Cohen, MD</td>
<td>Center for Women’s Health of Montgomery County 1000 Walnut Street, Suite 122 Lansdale, PA 19446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Resident Education Committee</strong></td>
<td>Jasjit K. Beausang, MD</td>
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<td>Albert El-Roeiy, MD Crozer-Chester Medical Center One Medical Center Boulevard Upland, PA 19013-3995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Newsletter Committee</strong></td>
<td>Luisa Galdi, D.O.</td>
<td>216 N. Broad St. Feinstein 4th floor Philadelphia, PA 19102</td>
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**Member at Large - 1st Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lisa K. Perriera, M.D</td>
<td>833 Chestnut Street 1st Floor Philadelphia, PA 19107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abigail Wolf</td>
<td>833 Chestnut Street 1st Floor Philadelphia, PA 19107</td>
</tr>
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**Member at Large - 2nd Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Abigail Wolf</td>
<td>833 Chestnut Street 1st Floor Philadelphia, PA 19107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen M. Widzer</td>
<td>633 W. Germantown Pike Suite 203 Plymouth Meeting, PA 19440</td>
</tr>
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**Member at Large - 3rd Year**

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jason Baxter, MD</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferson University 833 Chestnut Street, 1st Floor Philadelphia, PA 19107</td>
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<td>The Reading Hospital and Medical Center Department of OB/GYN 6th Ave &amp; Spruce Street West Reading, PA 19611</td>
</tr>
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**Member at Large - 4th Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Susan Kaufman, DO</td>
<td>Suite S-93, Executive Mews 1930 State Hwy 70 East Cherry Hill, NJ 08003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arnold W. Cohen, MD</td>
<td>Albert Einstein Medical Center 5500 Old York Road Philadelphia, PA 19141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald DeBrakeleeer, DO</td>
<td>Center for Women’s Health of Montgomery County 1000 Walnut Street, Suite 122 Lansdale, PA 19446</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>