



SOGC News

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada

September 2004

Third ALARM International Course

Lida Lore, RN BSN MA

In May 2004, Dr. Ferd Pauls and I traveled to Kosovo to complete the third and final SOGC ALARM International Course, conducted with seven local instructors, a project which has



ALARM International Program faculty members, Kosovo.

spanned the past three years. Dr. Pauls began working on this project in collaboration with CPHA (Canadian Public Health Association) and local obstetricians from Pristina, Kosovo with a focus to align perinatal health care with International Standards of Practice. In order to achieve this, the first course (June 2003)

provided opportunities for local obstetricians to attend the course and advance further to become instructors. The second course (November 2003) provided the opportunity for some of the instructors to teach in collaboration with the Canadian team. The final course (May 2004) enabled the initial group of Kosovar ALARM Course Instructors to mentor fellow Kosovar obstetricians with the teaching and implementation of the course.

During the past three years, SOGC has not only provided education in terms of implementing the ALARM Course, but has also provided support in establishing the Kosovo Obstetrical Gynecology Association (KOGA), which will now assume a leadership role in disseminating the ALARM Course throughout Kosovo.

I first became involved with the SOGC International ALARM Course in 2003 while working in Kosovo as a Senior Nurse Advisor with the Canadian Nurses Association and CPHA. The focus of the project was to conduct an assessment within two key obstetrical facilities pertaining to standards of practice, educational and administrative support and subsequently provide recommendations that would enable the organizations to meet International Standards of Obstetrical Practice. Since the CNA and SOGC projects were unfolding simultaneously, I was able to participate with the SOGC International ALARM Course team.

It was apparent that such a course could not be implemented without the knowledge and expertise of someone who could translate both Canadian and Albanian languages, but

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Journalism Award for Excellence

The SOGC and the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health have announced the recipients of the 2004 Journalism Award for Excellence in Women's Health Reporting.

This yearly award recognizes outstanding reporting on women's health issues appearing in Canadian consumer newspapers, magazines and broadcast reports.

We wish to congratulate winning journalists for providing up-to-date information that enables women to make informed choices about their health.

Broadcast Category Winner:

Cindy MacDougall, health reporter for CBC North Radio One in the Northwest Territories.

Ms. MacDougall's submission, "Into the Mouths of Babes: A look at breastfeeding in the Northwest Territories" is a three-part radio series that aired in August of 2003.

The series looks at an attempt by the territories' main hospital to become a United Nations-certified "Baby Friendly" Hospital. It also explores the Dene village of Wha Ti, where a group of young Aboriginal mothers and the local nurse are trying to change the village tradition of nursing with a bottle. The last part of the series looks at some fascinating research in Aboriginal communities on the effect of breastfeeding on incidents of type 2 diabetes in children and teens.

Print Category Winner:

Brad Evenson, medical reporter for the National Post.

Mr. Evenson's article "Stillbirth Endures as Mystery to Doctors", appeared in the November 13th 2003 National Post.

The special report identifies the hardship, research and possible risk factors for stillbirths. Physicians can screen DNA for

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APOG Representative	Dr. William Fraser University of Montréal Montréal, QC
Corresponding Member	Senator Lucie Pépin Senate of Canada Ottawa, ON

SOGC Office Expansion

These pictures display the new, much needed space added to the SOGC National Office. A rental agreement was signed with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPC) for a period of 15 years. The subletting of some of the excess space makes this a very economical way for us to increase our office space.

The SOGC is pleased to have worked very closely with the RCPC in completing these renovations, which were done without any major disturbance to our daily activities. The SOGC would like to invite its members to drop in and visit our office when in Ottawa.



(L to R) Michel Brazeau, RCPC Executive Director, Dr. André Lalonde, SOGC EVP and Glen McStravick, RCPC Director of Corporate Affairs

International Women's Health Symposium at the 2004 ACM

During the Annual Clinical Meeting (ACM) at its International Women's Health Symposium held on June 28, 2004 in Edmonton, Alberta, the Society honoured the contribution of its ALARM International Instructors who have delivered the ALARM International Program in low resource countries since 1999. SOGC greatly appreciates the time and effort the volunteers committed to the ALARM International Program and held a ceremony honoring their efforts.

Also during the ACM, the SOGC hosted representatives from SOGC's partner associations, the Association of Ob/Gyn of Uganda, *Société Haitienne des obstetriciens*

et gynecologues, Asociacion de Ginecologia y Obstetricia de Guatemala and the Kosovar Ob/Gyn Association. Drs. Beyeza, Biryabarema, Lila, Menendez, Zea-Flores, Grand'Pierre and Merlet attended various activities in Edmonton including the International Women's Health Symposium, the FIGO Save the Mothers Project Evaluation, and meetings related to the SOGC Partnership Program as well as the clinical ACM sessions. The SOGC is extremely proud of its Partnership Program, which receives funding from CIDA, and looks forward to working together over the next few years.

DUCHESNAY
Caring for mother and child during pregnancy

ProgVit The new generation of prenatal-postpartum multivitamin

Proctofoam HC The ideal treatment for postpartum hemorrhoids

DICLECTIN The first choice treatment for nausea and vomiting of pregnancy

The International Women's Health Program would like to thank our sponsors, Duchesnay Inc. and the Canadian International Development Agency, for their continued generous support of the International Women's Health Symposium held on June 28th, 2004 in Edmonton, Alberta.

2005 ICME

JOIN US AT THE 18TH INTERNATIONAL CME
FROM MARCH 7 – 11, 2005 AT "LA JOLLA DE
MISMALOYA" RESORT, PUERTO VALLARTA, MEXICO

WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?

- ☎ Luxurious, all-suites, beach front, 3 gigantic swimming pools with cascading waterfalls, 4-star resort
- ☎ State-of-the-art Convention Centre
- ☎ 20 minutes away from the downtown core

SOGC negotiated package rates FROM \$125 U.S., per person, per night (based on double occupancy) - INCLUDES:

- ☎ Breakfast & Lunch
- ☎ One-bedroom, and two-bedroom suites
- ☎ Children aged 0-11 are FREE / aged 12+ are \$70 U.S. per child
- ☎ Large fridge, hot plate, Internet access and satellite TV
- ☎ Kids Club, "JOLLAMIGOS" includes exercise, arts & crafts, treasure hunt, mini Olympics, piñatas and beach fun activities...

INTERESTED?

- ☎ Visit La Jolla's website at: www.lajollademismaloya.com
- ☎ Flights and hotel reservations, call Tanya Dugal at CARLSON WAGONLIT (Ottawa): 1-800-465-4040 or (613) 238-4040 EXT. 236 or E-mail at: tdugal@carlsonwagonlit.ca

JOIN US!

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada
La Société des obstétriciens et gynécologues du Canada
780, promenade Echo Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5R7
Tel/Tél. : 1 800 561-2416 or/ou (613) 730-4192 Fax/Téléc. : (613) 730-4314

Web : www.sogc.org



When patients can't afford birth control

Daniel Morier, Public Education Coordinator

With monthly costs ranging from \$25 to \$35, not all women have the financial resources to purchase birth control pills, placing them at greater risk for unplanned and unwanted pregnancies. When financial hardship becomes a barrier in obtaining OCs, health care providers can receive free prescriptions for their patients through the National Compassionate Oral Contraceptive Program.

The SOGC is responsible for the management of this program, ensuring that access to contraception is not denied to patients who can't afford to pay for medication and don't have private insurance plan or government assistance. Participating OC manufacturers have filled over 14,000 requests since its inception, with 2,348 requests to date in 2004.

The toll-free fax line (1-866-888-PILL), operating in-house since June, processes an average of 300 requests on a monthly basis.

For application forms and more detailed information, please contact the SOGC at (800) 561-2416 extension 329.

Compassionate Oral Contraceptive Program Background

In 2001, OC providers were asked to promote one-month samples instead of the traditional 3-month starter packs in an effort to reduce waste and excessive reliance on free samples as a means of providing for women's contraceptive needs. Before the program, as many as seven million samples

per year were being distributed in Canada, far surpassing the demand from the 250,000 women choosing to start, restart, or switch to a new brand of pills.

All new OC prescriptions should now be accompanied by a one month sample for healthcare providers to demonstrate the correct sequence to patients and to provide immediate access to contraception. The program's outcome has included a reduction in the estimated 1,75 million samples going to waste and the added benefit of promoting "dual protection", encouraging patients to purchase condoms when they fill their first prescription shortly after their office visit. Even with reduction of samples, there will continue to be OC samples far in excess of requirements (approx. 2 million samples for 250,000 women starting the pill).



23RD ONTARIO CME PROGRAMME

IN ASSOCIATION WITH OSOG

November 25-27, 2004

Marriott Eaton Centre, Toronto

DON'T FORGET:

TO REGISTER for the CME: complete the registration form (for the early bird registration fee) that you have received with the preliminary programme. Return it to our office accompanied with your payment, either by fax at 613-730-4314 or by mail to SOGC, 780 Echo Drive, Ottawa, ON K1S 5R7. You may also register on-line at anytime by visiting our website at http://www.sogc.org/conferences/ontario/index_e.shtml.

TO REGISTER for the ALARM Course: Register now while space is still available. Please refer to registration form for enrollment.

TO BOOK your hotel accommodation: call the toll-free number 1-800-905-0667. To obtain your special group rate, please refer to the SOGC conference.

**DEADLINE DATE is Thursday,
October 29, 2004!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, please visit our website at www.sogc.org/conferences/ontario/index_e.shtml

**Join us at this conference.
You will not be disappointed!**

Breast-feeding Cuts Cancer Risk

National Post

A study published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute says breast-feeding reduces a woman's risk of getting breast cancer by as much as 50% if she has a genetic predisposition to getting the disease.

The key is a genetic mutation known as BRCA1. Women who carry it "have an unusually high risk of getting the disease", says Dr. Steven Narod at the Centre for Research in Women's Health at the University of Toronto, who led the study. "If they breast-feed, that risk goes down by half. That's a real slice in risk reduction."

The dramatic decline in cancer incidence among breast-feeding women with the BRCA1 gene does not appear to apply to carriers of the other breast cancer gene known as BRCA2. Additional studies are underway to explore links between pesticides and breast cancer, as well as possible links between the disease and air pollutants, electric and magnetic fields and municipal waste. But the latest study is putting breast-feeding back in the spotlight.

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada: Celebrating 60 Years of Success

SOGC Past Presidents (1974-1980)

1 - Dr. Douglas W. Cudmore served as SOGC's forty-third President (1986-1987). He was previously appointed as SOGC's Atlantic Region Chairman (1983-86). At the time, the National Office was trying to survive the effects of cutbacks, escalating costs and the declining participation of volunteer members. SOGC went ahead and established a working committee to investigate the desirability and feasibility of creating a Canadian College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in order to find a remedy on matters related to liaison and planning problems between the SOGC, APOG and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC). With the help of key professional organizations in Canada (e.g. RCPSC, CMA, CFPC, CAN and APOG to name a few), SOGC promoted national dialogue and a new approach to the planning of health care delivery in Canada to comply with the major changes in reproductive health care in Canada. Dr. Cudmore also served as Editor for the SOGC Bulletin (1987-1988).



2 - Dr. Ian Morrison served as SOGC's forty-fourth President (1987-1988). Although the Bulletin was a major financial strain on the Society, the publication became a venue on which the gold standard of women's health care in Canada was based. In matters relating to the National Office, the Executive Committee decided to terminate the employment of its staff with exception made to the Executive Director's position. The Society canceled its offshore meeting and asked every committee to use their personal funds to attend their meetings. In addition to exploding medical-legal fees and, consequently, the additional stress and loss of work hours through the preparation of medical-legal proceedings, it was also a period of time when obstetricians/gynaecologists were being faced with a declining economic position in Canada. The number of applicants for Residency positions in the ob/gyn field was also decreasing. A brief was consequently submitted to the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Review of Liability and Compensation Issue in Health Care.



3 - Dr. Walter J. Hannah took the gavel as SOGC's forty-fifth President (1988-1989). The elimination of the deficit was a high priority for Dr. Hannah as the Society was on the verge of bankruptcy. The SOGC Bulletin was purchased by Ribosome Inc. in attempt to rescue the Society from its financial plight. Following the sale, the publication changed its name to The Journal of the SOGC. All financial difficulties put aside, the quality of CME offerings were better than ever and the quality of the scientific presentations at the Annual Meeting was of high quality. The initiative to create a separate college of obstetricians and gynaecologists, first introduced at the Annual Business Meeting in 1986, was abandoned mainly because of the Corporation Professionnelle des Médecins du Québec's reluctance to transfer its accreditation and certification authority. The Society's mandate also changed to include action on political issues such as manpower, introduction of midwifery, abortion legislation and the medical-legal crisis to name a few.



4 - Dr. Leo J. Peddle took the reigns of SOGC as the forty-sixth President from 1989 to 1990. He previously served as President of APOG from 1988-1989 and as Chairman of the FIGO 1994 World Congress Planning Committee from 1988 to 1994. SOGC's refusal to



accept CMA's *Obstetrics '87 Report* prompted the CMA to create a Committee of Affiliate Societies in which the SOGC was invited to take part. This provided a vehicle to the Society and other affiliate societies to have direct input into CMA's decision-making process. On the political scene, Bill C-43 was introduced, which re-criminalized abortion in Canada. It appeared to be a practical and easy solution for politicians, but for women across Canada and for the physician providing the service, the new legislation only made matters complicated.

5 - Dr. David R. Popkin was given the mandate, as SOGC's forty-seventh President (1990-1991), to present the Society's position on Reproductive Health to the Royal Commission on New Reproductive Technologies in 1990. Dr. Popkin presented SOGC's

position on Bill C-43 to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Senate Committee in 1991. On the political level, the relation between SOGC and the Ontario Minister of Health became uneasy. A curriculum for midwifery programs in Ontario was being developed and SOGC participated in the interim council mandated to draft practice standards and the curriculum for midwives in the province. The Society was astonished when it was later decided that it would be bypassed in the process. The provincial government therefore decided that the curriculum was to be processed through the Toronto Institute of Technology rather than to be based on university programs as recommended. There were also problems within the head office concerning the respective roles of both the Executive Vice-President and of the Executive Director. Another debated issue included the Junior Members dissatisfaction towards the National Office. They were to leave the Society if it did not reform their administrative and managerial processes. The Executive members voted to solidify the Executive Vice-President position and consequently terminate the Director of Administration's position.



6 - Dr. Dorothy Shaw was elected as SOGC's forty-eighth President during 1991 and 1992. Together with the Treasurer, Dr. Garry Krepart, SOGC was able to secure in-term financing with the Royal Bank of Canada, thus pulling the Society out of a serious financial crisis. The Society's By-laws and mission statement were completely revised and amendments were brought accordingly

to comply with the requirements of modern national specialty societies. Dr. Shaw was also instrumental in reforming the Planning Committee for the FIGO meeting held in Singapore. As a result of this initiative, the Executive Vice-President received the mandate to sign all the contracts, thus enabling him to exercise some control over the congress' financial situation. Dr. Shaw was also known as a strong spokesperson for women's issues.



FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING,
Tuesday June 23 - Saturday June 27, 1987.
Westin Hotel, Ottawa
Council 1986-1987
President ..Douglas Wendell Cudmore (Charlottetown)
President-Elect.. Ian Morrison (St. Boniface, Man.)
Vice-PresidentsPatrick J. Taylor (Calgary)

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SOGC Awards Presentation

The following abstract presentation prizes were awarded during the ACM Awards Ceremony in Edmonton on June 29. Congratulations to all our winners!

Category	Sponsor	Winner	Title
Best Gynaecology Paper	Berlex Canada Inc.	Susie Lau	HPV DNA Detection as a Predictor of Lesion Progression Among Women with ASCUS Cytological Diagnosis
Best Gynaecology Junior Members Paper	Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Jens Walter	Clinical Indication for Referral to Colposcopy: A One Year Experience at a Tertiary Care Centre
Runner up Gynaecology Junior Members Paper	Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Shunaha Kim	A Prevalence Study of Subjective and Objective Urinary Incontinence and Pelvic Organ Prolapse In North American First Nations Women
Best Obstetrics Paper	SOGC	Geneviève Roy	Induction of Labour with Oral Versus Vaginal Misoprostol for Second Trimester Termination of Pregnancy: A Double-Blinded, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Trial
Best Obstetrics Junior Members Paper	Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Emmanuel Bujold	Is Maternal Body Mass Index Associated with External Cephalic Version Success?
Runner up Obstetrics Junior Members Paper	Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Paul Chang	Can Computerized Nonstress Test Parameters Predict Metabolic Status at Birth?
Best Gynaecology Poster	Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Thomas Baskett	Endometrial Ablation with Electrocautery: Report of 500 Cases
Best Gynaecology Junior Members Poster	Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Adrian Gamelin	Outpatient Total Laparoscopic Hysterectomy
Runner up Gynaecology Junior Members Poster	Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Sandra Baydock	Effectiveness of the Uresta™ Self-Fitting Continence Pessary Set for Women
Best Obstetrics Poster	Duchesnay Inc.	Victoria Allen	Economic Implications of Method of Delivery
Best Obstetrics Junior Members Poster	Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Heather Robinson	Maternal Outcomes in Pregnancies Complicated by Obesity: A Population-Based Cohort Study
Runner up Obstetrics Junior Members Poster	Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Stephen Renaud	Activated Macrophages Inhibit Cytotrophoblast Invasiveness in Low Oxygen Conditions Through A TNF- α Mediated Mechanism

APOG Awards In Education & Research

The Association of Professors of Obstetrics & Gynaecology of Canada will be introducing two new awards at our Annual General Meeting in recognition of the excellence our members have, and continue, to demonstrate year after year. We are thrilled at the prospect of recognizing our members for their outstanding contribution to education and research in our specialty. Please join us at this year's AGM as we present the following achievement awards to two exceptional individuals.

Educator of the Year Award

Recognizing excellence, commitment, in-

novation and leadership in teaching knowledge, attitudes, and skills.

Research Scientist of the Year Award

Recognizing outstanding creative effort, scientific leadership and the major research accomplishments of a Canadian research scientist.

If you would like to obtain more information about either of these awards, please visit the APOG website at www.apog.ca. Details can be found in the Grants & Awards section.

The PowerPoint presentation on SOGC's Past Presidents is now available on the SOGC's Website, thanks to the remarkable efforts of our webmaster, Nikolas Leblanc. To have a look, visit www.sogc.org.

Positions in Maternal Fetal Medicine

Sunnybrook and Women's College Hospital, Medicine is seeking applicants for staff positions in the Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine.

The Women's College campus is a major teaching unit, fully affiliated with the University of Toronto, and supports one of the two Regional Level 3 Perinatal Units of the Greater Toronto Area. We are anticipating the addition of perinatologists as the department of Obstetrics and Gynecology expands its high-risk pregnancy role, and prepares to relocate to its new, state of the art location at the Sunnybrook campus, situated in mid-Toronto.

This busy unit with approximately 4000 deliveries per year, 28 high-risk beds and 48 Neonatal intensive care beds, is an integral part of the Provincial High Risk Maternal Transfer Program accepting maternal transfers of high-risk pregnancies from surrounding city hospitals and Central/North East Ontario. We are internationally recognized as leaders in the field of multiple pregnancy and are closely associated with the Maternal Infant and Reproductive Health Research Unit, which is internationally recognised for its expertise in the coordination of multi-centre, randomised

controlled trials. The successful candidate will possess excellent clinical and teaching skills for medical students, residents and fellows. A commitment to research should be evident, as well as the capability to develop our exciting new horizons. Applicants should have completed a recognized MFM Fellowship.

The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from visible minority group members, women, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, members of sexual minority groups and others who may contribute to further diversification of ideas. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian and permanent residents will be given priority.

Please direct your enquiries and or CV to:

Dr. Jon Barrett
Division Head of
Maternal Fetal Medicine
60 Grosvenor Street, Suite 617
Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1B6
Phone: 416 323 7551
e-mail: jon.barrett@swchsc.on.ca

Another e-learning module

Another e-learning module has just been added to the CPD list. The Resurgence of Chlamydia Trachomatis is now accessible online at SOGC.

This learning module is intended to help meet learning needs on Chlamydia Trachomatis. The module is made up of 4 sections - each section composed of a pre-test, core content, case studies and post-test. The lecture is thorough, allowing an unfamiliar user to gain not only considerable knowledge, but

also a quantity of vicarious practical experience.

The core content is designed to provide physicians with a good understanding of treatment of diagnosis and treatment of Chlamydia Trachomatis, focusing on the patient requirements, patient health and safety, and appropriate follow-up plans for patients who are at risk of Chlamydia Trachomatis.

Follow the link to the E-Learning Modules in the CME Activities section of the SOGC Website (www.sogc.org).

SOGC PROGRAMMES

23rd Ontario CME

Marriott Eaton Centre, Toronto, Ontario
November 25-27, 2004

6th Annual Clinical Meeting in conjunction with the 39th Annual Conference of the AOGG

Québec City, Québec
June 16-21, 2005

SOGC COURSES - 2004

SCOPE 2004

- **Toronto, ON** - December 10-11
Surgical Skills Centre,
Mt. Sinai Hospital

ALARM - 2004

- **Midland, ON** - October 15-16
- **Abbotsford, BC** - October 29-30
- **Toronto, ON** - (in conjunction with ON CME) November 28-29

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS - 2004

McMaster International Women and Children's Health Symposium

September 24, 2004, Royal Botanical Gardens, Burlington, Ontario; Info: Tel: (905) 525-9140, ext. 22671; Website: www.internationalwomenshealth.org

XIX European Congress of Perinatal Medicine, Athens, Greece, Athens Hilton

Hotel, 14-16 October; Tel. (+) 30 210 68 89 100; Fax (+) 30 210 68 44 777; E-mail: perinatal2004@cnc.gr; Web site: www.cnc.gr

FIGO-IFFS Joint Conference on Recent Progress in Reproductive Medicine

- November 5-6, Barcelona, Spain; Registration: www.eventsintl.com/figo-iffs2004; Info: (514) 286-0855; E-mail: info@eventsintl.com

Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting

- Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge, Jasper, Alberta, November 24-27; Info: 514-524-9009; Fax: 514-524-2163; E-mail: info@cfas.ca; Web site: www.cfas.ca

Saskatchewan Association of Gynecologic Endoscopists

SAGE 2004: Into the Endozone

November 26 & 27, 2004, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon; Info: Tel: (306) 966-7787; E-mail: cme@usask.ca
Website: <http://www.usask.ca/cme/>

(Journalism - cont'd from page 1)

genetic diseases, reach inside the womb to operate on fetal hearts, and deliver babies so premature their skin is as transparent as cellophane - but 12 times more infants die in their mothers' wombs each year than in their cribs. Science has no cure for stillbirth - it is one of the last, great mysteries of medicine.

Runner-up - Broadcast Category

Pauline Dakin, CBC Radio.
"The Myth of Early Detection" is a series of stories that questions the conventional wisdom that finding cancer early gives patients a better chance of beating it.

Runner-up #1 - Print Category

Sally Armstrong, Chatelaine.
"The Cutting Edge" presents compelling information on why the number of Caesarean sections in Canada has multiplied in recent years.

ling information on why the number of Caesarean sections in Canada has multiplied in recent years.

Runner-up #2 - Print Category

Marcia Kaye, Chatelaine.
"Storm Warning" details premenstrual dysphoric disorder and postpartum depression, illustrating the profound effect women's hormones can have on their mental health.

(Past Presidents - cont'd from page 5)

..... Walter J. Hannah (Toronto)
Secretary Patrick T. Mohide (Hamilton)
Assistant Secretary..... Jeffrey A. Nisker (London)
Honorary Treasurer .. Richard W. Winter (Edmonton)
Regional Chairpersons:
Western Bernd K. Wittmann (Vancouver)
Central David R. Popkin (Saskatoon)
Ontario..... Ronald A. Cochen (Mississauga)
Quebec: Serge Belisle (Sherbrooke)
Atlantic..... Nicholas Daly (St. John's, NFLD)
Guest Speakers .Dr R. Donald Gambrell Jr. (Georgia)

FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING,
Tuesday June 21 - Saturday June 25, 1988.
Hyatt Hotel, Vancouver

Council 1987-1988

President Ian Morrisson (St. Boniface, Man.)
President-Elect..... Walter J. Hannah (Toronto)
Vice-Presidents Basil Ho Yuen (Vancouver)
..... Leo J. Peddle (Halifax)
Secretary Jeffrey Nisker (London)
Treasurer Richard W. Winter (Edmonton)
Executive Director Ruth Stockdale
Regional Chairpersons:
Western Bernd K. Wittmann (Vancouver)
Central David R. Popkin (Saskatoon)
Ontario..... J. Kenneth Milne (London)
Quebec Serge Belisle (Sherbrooke)
Atlantic..... Nicholas Daly (St. John's, NFLD)
Guest Speaker
..... Dr. Richard Soderstrom (Washington)

FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING,
Tuesday June 20 - Saturday June 24, 1989.
Hilton Hotel, Quebec City

Council 1988-1989

President Walter J. Hannah (Toronto)
President-Elect..... Leo J. Peddle (Halifax)
Vice-Presidents Basil Ho Yuen (Vancouver)
..... David R. Popkin (Saskatoon)
Secretary Jeffrey A. Nisker (London)
Treasurer Richard W. Winter (Edmonton)
Assistant Treasurer Garry V. Krepert (Winnipeg)

Executive Director Ruth Stockdale
Regional Chairpersons
Western Dorothy Shaw (Vancouver)
Central Irvin Peever (Winnipeg)
Ontario..... J. Kenneth Milne (London)
Quebec Antonin Rochette (Loretteville)
Atlantic Robert H. Lea (Halifax)
Guest Speaker Dr. Maureen Law (Ottawa)

FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING,
Tuesday June 19 - Saturday June 23, 1990.
Sheraton Hotel (Halifax)

Council 1989-1990

President Leo J. Peddle (Halifax)
President-Elect..... David R. Popkin (Saskatoon)
Vice-Presidents Dorothy Shaw (Vancouver)
..... Robert J. Gauthier (Montreal)
Executive Vice-President.. Jeffrey A. Nisker (London)
Treasurer Garry V. Krepert (Winnipeg)
Executive Director Ruth Stockdale
Regional Chairpersons:
Western Mary Lynn Simpson (Vancouver)
Central Irvin Peever (Winnipeg)
Ontario..... J. Kenneth Milne (London)
Quebec Antonin Rochette (Loretteville)
Atlantic Robert H. Lea (Halifax)
..... Donald Tennent (St. John's, NFLD)
..... - Vice Chairman
Guest Speakers Dr Patricia Baird (Vancouver)

FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING,
Tuesday June 11 - Saturday June 15, 1991.
Harbour Castle Westin, Toronto

Council 1990-1991

President David R. Popkin (Saskatoon)
President-Elect..... Dorothy Shaw (Vancouver)
Vice-Presidents Robert Gauthier (Montreal)
..... Kenneth Milne (London)
Executive Vice-President.....
..... André B. Lalonde (Ottawa)
Treasurer Garry Krepert (Winnipeg)
Executive Director Ruth Stockdale
Regional Chairpersons:
Western Lynn Simpson (Vancouver)
Central Irvin Peever (Winnipeg)

..... Peter Woodrow (Regina)
Ontario..... Paul Hergott (Sault Ste. Marie)
..... Larry Komer (Burlington)
Quebec Antonin Rochette (Ste. Foy)
..... Rodolphe Maheux (Quebec)
Atlantic Robert Lea (Halifax)
..... Donald Tennent (St. John's, NFLD)
Guest Speaker Dr Gilles Hurteau (Ottawa)

FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING,
Monday June 8 - Saturday June 13, 1992.
Westin Bayshore, Vancouver

Council 1991-1992

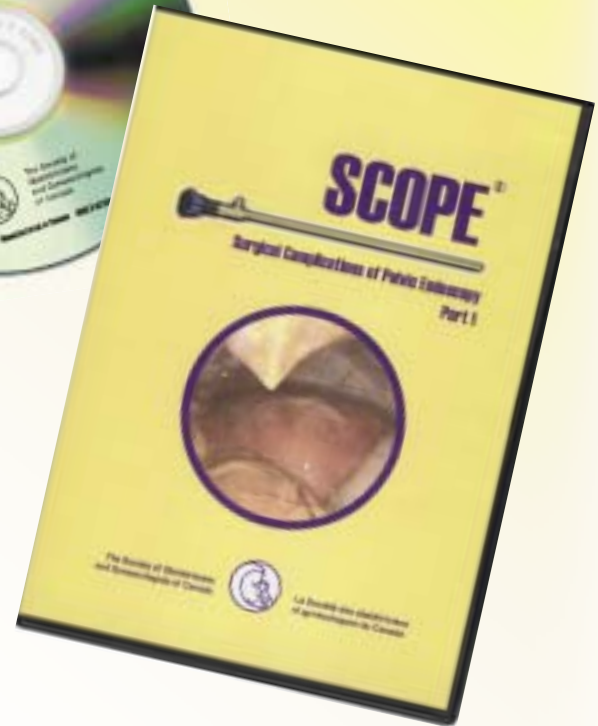
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..... Hani Akoury (Moncton)
Guest Speaker .Dr. Bruce Ettinger (San Francisco)
..... Dr. Thierry Vancaille (Texas)
..... Dr. Jacques Donnez (Brussels, Belgium)

References:

- SOGC: The First Fifty Years, 1944-1994, Harry Oxorn, MD FRCS (C), The Parthenon Publishing Group, New York, 1994.
- SOGC Executive and Council Minutes (1986-1992), SOGC Archives, Ottawa, Ontario

The **SCOPE** Program

*Surgical Complications
of Pelvic Endoscopy*



SCOPE is based on the following principles:

To instruct participants on how to avoid adverse events in endoscopic surgery and mitigate the fall out from adverse events if they should occur.

Course recommendations are based on levels of evidence according to the Canadian Task Force on the Periodic Health Examination.

Structured to include a self-assessment pre-test and a post test evaluation. The course qualifies for section one and three CME credit hours in the new Royal College Maintenance of Certification Program.

Patient safety is the focus throughout all of the instruction of the course content.

The course is provided in two parts:

Part one – is in a CD-ROM format with all of the plenary content material developed on an interactive platform. This CD desktop application consists of eight sections relevant to endoscopic surgical practice.

The CD-ROM is integrated with an on-line web component enabling the self-assessment and post testing to be done on line. Part one is available to all of the membership.

Part two – is optional and consists of a lab practicum consisting of a two-day hands on course. Each participant will be given a set of surgical exercises to perform and will receive informal feed back during the course event.

How to Order:

The new CD-ROM is available from:
Patient Safety Division
The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada
700 Richmond Street, Suite 204
London, Ontario, N6A 5C7
Tel: 1-800-766-8301

Please include a cheque payable to the SOGC for \$295.00 and enclose your name and shipping address below.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Province: _____

Postal Code: _____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Obituary Brian D. Best

Chapel Lawn Funeral Home



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Dr. Brian D. Best, Past President of the SOGC (1956-1957), on May 30, 2004 at the age of 93. Dr. Best was widely regarded as an outstanding surgeon and diagnostician, and one of the leading obstetricians and gynaecologists in Western Canada. As an obstetrician in Winnipeg, he personally supervised the delivery of thousands of babies during his long career. Many of them were among the most complicated cases. He was also a passionate and dedicated teacher of medical students for many years. In the latter years of his long and distinguished life, Dr. Best found it more difficult to move around. However, his incisive mentality, aided by a prodigious appetite for reading and learning, was dominant to the end.

New RCOG President: Dr. A. Templeton

The following was elected President at a meeting of Council, held on Saturday 27 March 2004: Professor Allan Templeton FRCOG (Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists)

Professor Templeton takes up office in September 2004.

ATTENTION ALL OB/GYN, Associate MD, Midwife, Registered Nurse, PhD, Associate HealthCare, Allied Health Care and Life Members!

There will be a slight change in the 2005 membership renewal dates, as follows:

- **First** Notice sent out the week of November 1
- **Second** Notice sent out the week of January 1
- **Third** and **Final** Notice sent out the week of February 1

If we have not received payment by February 28 your membership will lapse and you will lose the privileges of membership. This new schedule will go into effect November 1, 2004.

ARE YOU RETIRED, SEMI-RETIRED, ON MATERNITY LEAVE OR DISABILITY... we want to know.

We are currently updating our SOGC membership database and are requesting that you contact the National Office if you are presently:

- Semi-Retired
- Fully Retired
- On disability/ illness not allowing you to work
- On maternity leave

Either of these situations could result in a reduction of membership fees. Please contact Shaely Williams, Membership and Subscription Coordinator by e-mail at swilliams@sogc.com or by phone at 1-800-561-2416 x 233.

Life Member

The Ontario Medical Association and the Academy of Medicine awarded Dr. Norman Barwin a Life Membership for outstanding contribution to the Association,

Medical Science and the common good of the community of Ontario at the Annual General Meeting in Toronto on May 1st, 2004. **Congratulations Dr. Barwin!**

Hydrocephalus Shunt Card

Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Canada (SBHAC)

Over 80% of babies who are born with spina bifida develop hydrocephalus. However, hydrocephalus is not limited to people with spina bifida - it can happen to anyone. It often is the result of a trauma to the brain such as infection, head injury, meningitis, tumors or in the aging process. In addition to symptoms found in spina bifida babies, including head enlargement, vomiting, irritability seizures and high pitched crying, a child or adult who acquires hydrocephalus can experience vision problems, fever, loss of co-ordination and personality changes. Neurosurgeons use shunts to control hydrocephalus.

The Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Canada (SBHAC) saw the need to produce and make available a '**shunt card**' to individuals living with a shunt and health professionals providing treatment. The purpose of the shunt card is to alert medical personnel to the existence of a shunt should the person be unable to speak for him or herself. The shunt card will also contain information critical to the care of the individual. The convenient card design fits easily into a wallet. Please contact SBHAC to obtain a shunt card - telephone toll free 1 800 565-9488, fax (204) 925-3654 or spinab@mts.net

Junior Member News

The Junior Member News section of SOGC News is funded by a grant from Wyeth Pharmaceuticals

Message from Past Chair, SOGC Junior Member Committee

Dr. Sony Sukhbir Singh, Resident Year V, UWO, Dept. of Ob/Gyn

The past two years have been an exciting time for the Junior Membership of the SOGC. Many of the accomplishments are reflected in our record number of members and our incredible presence at this year's Annual Clinical Meeting in Edmonton, Alberta.

Membership

The Junior Membership (JM) represents all SOGC members who are Residents and Fellows in training across Canada. It also includes those in their **first year of practice** as well as the special category for medical students.

As of June 2004, there were a total of 616 Junior Members. This consists of 360 Residents & Fellows, 143 Medical Students and 113 members in their first year of practice. The number of medical student members is a record high for the SOGC.

The Junior Member Committee (JMC) represents the above members to Council and to affiliated organizations such as the Association of Professors of Ob/Gyn (APOG). Through local representation via each academic department across the country, members have an opportunity to voice their opinions and get involved at the national level. The JMC encourages its members to take the initiative to get involved which allows us to have influence at the national level!

If you're interested in making a difference and participating in the leadership of the "Future of Ob/Gyn" in Canada please contact your local SOGC JM representative or e-mail Lise Newton at the SOGC National Office.

60th Annual Clinical Meeting

The Diamond Anniversary ACM held in Edmonton this past June was a resounding success for the Junior Membership. This meeting hosted the largest ever Junior Member and Medical Student turnout at an ACM!

Among the successes was our first ever **SOGC-Wyeth Canadian Junior Member Leadership Program** with over 30 Residents supported to attend and over 50 attendees per session. This program included sessions on medico-legal issues, women's health advocacy, financial planning, physician well-being and career planning.

The other JM highlights from the meeting include:

- Medical Student Wine & Cheese Reception
- Annual JM Abstract Program
- Stump the Professor
- Resident Fun Night
- Diamond Anniversary Gala Evening
- JM Committee Meeting

A total of 144 JMs attended the meeting, including 56 medical students. Our **medical student initiative** financially supported over 40 students to attend the meeting, a welcome reception and an opportunity to attend the full ACM program. The JMC with the Promotion of the Specialty Committee also officially introduced our Recruitment Poster/Pamphlet Campaign entitled: "**Ob/Gyn: Are you up for the challenge?**"

The ACM was also host to the annual JMC Meeting where all 16 Ob/Gyn residency programs were represented. At this year's meeting we introduced the first ever "Canadian Guide to Postgraduate Training Opportunities" which includes an extensive list of fellowship opportunities in Ob/Gyn. This will be available on the SOGC website on the Junior Member page.

The successes of this year's Junior Member Committee and the JM program at the ACM have us already planning and working toward the upcoming year's goals. Next year's meeting is in beautiful Quebec City so plan your conference and holiday time now!

If you have any questions or would like to get involved let us know through your local representatives or e-mail Lise Newton at lnewton@sogc.com.

Elective Grant Winners

On behalf of the SOGC, the Junior Member Committee would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the following Spring 2004 Elective Grant Winners and to thank the respective sponsors:

- Elective Grant Sponsor: SOGC/Duchesnay Inc. – Grant Recipient: Dr. Rachel Spitzer
- Elective Grant Sponsor: SOGC/Berlex Canada Inc. – Grant Recipient: Dr. Craig Burym
- Elective Grant Sponsor: SOGC/Janssen-Ortho Inc. – Grant Recipient: Dr. Kimberly Liu

The next Elective Grant applications deadline is: **November 15, 2004.**

(IWH - cont'd from page 1)

also provide a broad base of experience with both cultures. We were fortunate to have Jacinthe Gagnon-Salih, a Canadian Registered Nurse, who has resided in Kosovo for many years. Jacinthe not only bridged the gap between our languages, but also facilitated understanding of customs and culture, a factor which proved to be vital in establishing a positive learning environment.

The SOGC ALARM International Program has come to a close in Kosovo. With the successful implementation of the Kosovo Obstetrical Gynecology Association, and implementation of Kosovo ALARM Course Instructors, the ALARM program will be carried forward to other Kosovar communities in the future.

It is important to acknowledge that his project could not have been achieved without support from CPHA, SOGC, and the ALARM Course Instructors who have assisted along the way. In closing, the Kosovar team paid tribute to one individual who stood out for his contribution, dedication, commitment, and perseverance. It is one thing to implement an education program in a foreign country, it is another to learn the culture and cultivate sustainability. For this, the SOGC International ALARM Course Team Leader, Dr. Ferd Pauls, is recognized as a model of outstanding leadership and respect.



You can make a difference in women's health research

Supporting the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health with your financial contributions has advanced research in women's health since 1998. Participating in the Foundation's fundraising activities and responding to the annual appeal are just two of the ways you have helped. Fortunately there are several other ways in which you can make a difference.

Each year the United Way campaign in your community raises funds for local charities as well as other registered charitable organizations in Canada. By naming the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health on your United Way appeal card, you have ensured that your donation is directed to furthering women's health research. Please encourage your spouse or partner and family and friends who take part in the annual United Way campaign that is launched every September, to include the Foundation as a beneficiary of their donation. To those of you who are currently supporting the Foundation through your United Way donations, many thanks. Because the United Way agencies do not provide the names of those who have designated the Foundation to receive their donations, it would be greatly appreciated if you could inform the Foundation office of your pledge. Thank you once again!

Leaving a living legacy is yet another way you can make a difference in the lives of those who follow. By including the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health in your life insurance policy or will you can do just that. Every day, the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health strives to improve the lives of women through medical research. Financial assistance is essential to support this work. By making even a small gift in your will or through life insurance, the Foundation can continue to fund necessary research in Canada. And there are tax benefits to these gifts. Leaving a legacy provides a unique opportunity for you to support the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health. For further information please contact the Foundation at 1-800-561-2416 or if you have a professional advisor, then please speak with him or her about making a gift.

A gift is also a wonderful way to recognize someone who has made a difference in your life. This kind of memorial gift can be arranged. You just need to make it clear that the gift is given in memory of a particular person.

With the holiday season fast approaching you may want to consider making a donation to the Canadian Foundation for

Women's Health in honour of those on your list. You can say goodbye to crowded shopping malls while knowing you are contributing to women's health. With your donation you will receive a letter and tax receipt and those you honour receive a card in the mail informing them that you have made a donation in their name. In the past, individuals have made these donations not only to wish someone a Merry Christmas or a Happy Hanukkah, but also to send birthday greetings and just to say "thank you".

Another and very artful way to provide your support would be through the purchase of the Foundation's greeting cards. These five generously-sized greeting cards have the original paintings of five of Canada's prominent female artists. Give them as a gift package or send them to family or friends for special occasions. A package of five assorted cards and envelopes is only \$25.

Please consider helping the Canadian Foundation for Women's Health today. For further information, you may contact the Foundation by telephone at 1-800-561-2416 or (613) 730-4192 ext. 238, by e-mail at rharris@sogc.com, on the web at www.cfwh.org, or at 780 Echo Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5R7.



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The SOGC News is published on a monthly basis. Comments and contributions are welcome and should be forwarded to: SOGC News, 780 Echo Dr., Ottawa, ON K1S 5R7, Tel: (613) 730-4192 or 1-800-561-2416, Fax: (613) 730-4314, E-mail: lbray-levac@sogc.com