

Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health Care Innovations Take Centre Stage in Vancouver

June 14-17, 2016

Ottawa, June 6, 2016 – Renowned women's health experts from around the world are converging in Vancouver from June 14-17th for the 72nd [Annual Clinical and Scientific Conference \(ACSC\)](#) of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC).

The ACSC is the premier continuing medical education event in Canada with more than 700 delegates in attendance. Over four days the event showcases the latest evidence-based research in reproductive health care and women's health issues. It also brings together the global women's health care community including obstetricians, gynaecologists, family physicians, nurses, midwives, residents, and other allied health professionals and health researchers.

"You only have to look at the news every day to realize issues like Zika virus and the arrival of new Syrian families to our communities have a significant impact on women's health care policy in Canada," says Dr. Jennifer Blake, CEO, SOGC. "In order to be responsive, health care providers must understand these evolving issues so they can provide the very best care they can to their patients at home. Our keynote speakers and workshops explore the latest research available into the social, cultural and environmental impacts of women's health care and health care delivery."

Hot topics

- Refugee health is on the front page of our newspapers and is front and centre in doctor's offices across Canada. Dr. Vanig Garabedian is a refugee and an obstetrician from Syria whose family was greeted recently on arrival at the airport in Canada by Prime Minister Trudeau. Dr. Fasyal El Kak from Beirut, Lebanon details conditions for women in refugee camps.
- SOGC to release a game-changing evidence-based Nutrition Guideline for optimal health benefits for women from adolescence through menopause and beyond. What we eat when pregnant has a lasting impact on the future health of our unborn children; what we eat as we age matters to whether we age in strength or frailty.
- New strategies and practices adopted to reduce instances of maternal death and return birth to remote communities.

- Internationally renowned researcher Dr. Linda Giudice shares important new data on how the environment and toxins while in utero can affect a child in adulthood.
- Endometriosis is a common and sometimes debilitating condition for women of reproductive age. Canadian and international experts explore why it can still take ten years to accurately diagnose.
- More than half of all pregnancies in Canada remain unplanned, despite advances in contraceptive choices and public awareness campaign into safe sex. A new SOGC Guideline examines emerging options.
- New prenatal testing (NIPT) raises ethical questions around the science of NIPT and what women and their health care providers should do with the information.
- A new do-it-yourself Pap test may revolutionize many of the cultural and geographic challenges to the timely diagnosis of treatable conditions for new Canadians and women living in the North.
- The HPV vaccine has had its critics, but has proven to be a huge success as it celebrates its ten year anniversary. Best-selling author Dr. Tim Caulfield (Is Gwyneth Paltrow Wrong About Everything?) talks about the power of pseudoscience to immobilize us- while noted researcher Dr. Gina Ogilvie shares new Canadian data on how the Human papilloma Virus (HPV) is being defeated by the success of the vaccine.

On Friday, June 17th, many of Canada's leading women's health researchers and practitioners will be honoured during the SOGC Awards Ceremony as delegates welcome incoming SOGC President Dr. George D. Carson.

Members of the media are welcome, and can attend all plenary symposia as outlined in the schedule. The workshop sessions are restricted to participants only. It is preferable if you can contact us ahead of time if you would like to attend the conference. If you need to register on site please visit the Registration Desk and ask for Anne Trueman.

Interviews with presenters/speakers may be arranged on site or before the conference.

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Please contact:

Anne Trueman
 Communications Manager
 Cell: 819 923-4538
 Office: 613 730-4192 ext. 228
 Email: atrueman@sogc.com

About the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada

The SOGC is one of Canada's oldest national specialty organizations. Established in 1944, the Society's mission is to promote excellence in the practice of obstetrics and gynaecology and to advance the health of women through leadership, advocacy, collaboration and education. The SOGC represents obstetricians/gynaecologists, family physicians, nurses, midwives and allied health professionals working in the field of sexual reproductive health. For more information visit www.sogc.org.