

## DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY



**Dr. Carole Rattray, MBBS, DM (O&G), FRCOG, FACOG**  
**Head of Department**

### **WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT**

Department continues to make great strides in teaching and research and service activities. Following on our successful inaugural new format MBBS Clinical examinations (OSCE) across all four campuses in May/June 2014, we continued our successes in the November 2014 and May/June 2105 MBBS Examinations. We started new format examinations in the DM Examinations in December 2014 and this, along with the subsequent examinations in May/June 2015 were successful. Our Associate Lecturers from our affiliate accredited hospitals of Cornwall Regional Hospital, Mandeville Regional Hospital, Spanish Town Hospital and Victoria Jubilee Hospital and The May Pen Hospital continue to give indispensable support to the department as the numbers of undergraduate students continue to grow. Our services include general Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Reproductive endocrinology, Gynaecological Oncology, Perinatal services and Assisted Reproduction.

## **OBSTETRIC PERINATAL SERVICE**

This service manages high risk Obstetric cases and accepts referrals from the rest of the island. The Unit provides teaching for postgraduate and undergraduate medical students. Perinatal Audits occur monthly as a joint meeting with the Department of Child Health, and the annual conference in February of each year is run by the High Risk Obstetric team in collaboration with the Neonatologists and Neonatal Pathologists.

The Labour Ward and Postnatal Services are supervised by Drs. Leslie Samuels and Cathy Maddan who also teach undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as midwives in training.

We launched the first clinical Fellowship Programme in Materno-Fetal Medicine & Emergency Obstetrics in July 2015 with three (3) Fellows. The primary thrust of this fellowship programme is to train persons to lead High Risk Obstetric Teams & High Dependency Units across Jamaica.

## **ONCOLOGY UNIT**

Dr. Taylor and Dr. Bambury are the two trained gynaecological Oncologists in the department and together with Dr. Rattray and Dr. Mitchell, form the Gynaecological Oncology Team. They are assisted by Sister Murdoch and her team of nurses as well as administrative secretary, Miss Thompson. Residents rotate through the unit spending two months in the Colposcopy and Oncology areas. Patients requiring colposcopy in the management of the abnormal cervical smear are seen in the Colposcopy clinics while patients with gynaecological malignancies, are seen in the Oncology clinic both in preparation for surgery and in following patients post surgery, post chemotherapy and radiation therapy. The Unit also has facilities for teaching both undergraduate and postgraduate students. A new Fellowship Programme in Gynaecological Oncology is in development.

## **FERTILITY MANAGEMENT UNIT**

Professor Joseph Frederick is the director of the Unit with Drs. Shaun Wynter, Vernon DaCosta, John Harriott, Loxley Christie and Sharifa Frederick as clinicians and Dr. Audrey Pottinger and Sister McKenzie as counselors. Two other staff members in the programme are Miss Denise Everett, a senior embryologist (Biologist) and Miss Hillary Walters a staff Nurse as the coordinator of the programme. This team has championed the In Vitro Fertilization and Embryo Transfer Programme for Jamaica and the Caribbean. Pregnancy rates continue to improve and frozen embryos and donor eggs are now being stored. Minimally invasive procedures such as hysteroscopy and laparoscopy (both diagnostic and therapeutic procedures) are provided as day case procedures and the family planning clinic offers contraceptive and sterilization advice.

The official opening of the renovated Hugh Wynter Fertility Management Unit took place in November 2013. This state of the art building is now fully functional. It houses two operating suites equipped with a surgical robot, a lecture theatre and new in vitro fertilisation laboratories. This new unit will have facilities for video conferencing allowing for the transmission of live surgical procedures other campuses in the Caribbean.

## **INTERNATIONAL VISITORS TO THE DEPARTMENT**

- 1) Professor Ray Bahado-Singh. External examiner May/June 2014
- 2) Dr Karolynn Echols – Urogynaecologist
- 3) Dr Kevin Hayes, External Examiner December 2014, Workshop on Item Writing

## **PAPERS PRESENTED**

- **Fletcher, H.** “Reducing Gynaecological Malignancies in the region.” (Inaugural Presidential Lecture). Caribbean Gynecologic Cancer Society, 1st Annual Meeting, Hilton Hotel Bridgetown, Barbados, February 6–7, 2015.

- **Fletcher, H.** “Reducing Gynaecological Malignancies in the region.” National Cancer Institute (US) Center for Global Health: Caribbean Cancer Control Leadership Forum, Marriott Hotel, Barbados, May 11–13, 2015.
- **Fletcher, H.** “Upper Female Genital Tract Infections.” Obstetrics And Gynaecology Conference, Trinidad Hilton, Port-of-Spain, June 5, 2015.
- **Fletcher, H.** “Reducing Gynaecological Malignancies in the Caribbean.” 60th Annual CARPHA Conference, St. Georges University, St Georges, Grenada June 25–27, 2015.
- **Fletcher, H.** “Cervical Cancer and Gestational Diabetes In Jamaica.” Caribbean College of Family Physicians (Jamaica Chapter) Scientific Workshop on Evidence based Guidelines in Screening and Disease Prevention, Kingston, Jamaica, July 26, 2015
- **Wynter, S.** “Male Fertility Issues.” NFPB Sexual and Reproductive Health Conference 2014, Jamaica Conference Centre, Kingston, November 29–30, 2014.
- **Wynter, S., Francis, J., Stewart, C.** Joint Medico-Legal panel on: “Medical Aspects of Embryo Freezing (Cryo-Preservation in Fertility Management) & Assisted Reproductive Technology: What Every Trust/Probate and Administration Lawyer Should Know.” The Jamaica Bar Association, Annual Weekend Conference, Hilton Rosehall Resort & Spa, Montego Bay, November 15–16, 2014 and on June 6–7, 2015 at the UWI Regional Headquarters, Kingston, Jamaica.
- **Wynter, S.** “Ethical, Medico-legal and Regulatory Issues in ART.” HWFMU Annual Workshop supported by Ferring, UWI Mona, June 13, 2015.

## PUBLICATIONS

## Referred Journal Articles

- Thame MM, Hsu JW, Gibson R, Baker TM, Tang GJ, Badaloo AV, **Fletcher HM**, Jackson AA, Jahoor F. “Adaptation of in vivo amino acid kinetics facilitates increased amino acid availability for fetal growth in adolescent and adult pregnancies alike.” *Br J Nutr*. 2014 Dec 14;112(11):1779-86. doi: 10.1017/S000711451400292X. Epub 2014 Oct 17.
- **Fletcher H**, Dawkins J, Allison-Vaughan M. “Fatal End-stage Renal Failure Aggravated by Recurrent Uterine Fibroids.” *West Indian Med J*. 2014 Sep;63(5):554-5. doi: 10.7727/wimj.2014.043.
- Bassa B, **Fletcher H**, Chinnia J. “Leiomyosarcoma of the vagina in pregnancy.” *Eur J Gynaecol Oncol*. 2015;36(3):339–40.
- Simon GA, **Fletcher H**, Golden K and McFarlane-Anderson ND. “Isoflavone and lignan excretion and risk of uterine fibroid in Jamaican women.” *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. Maturitas. 2015 Jul 17. pii: S0378-5122(15)30003-7. doi: 10.1016/j.maturitas.2015.06.041. [Epub ahead of print]
- **Carole Rattray**, Jeffrey Wiener, Jennifer Legardy-Williams, Elizabeth Costenbader, Karen Pazol, **Natalie Medley-Singh**, Margaret C. Snead, Markus J. Steiner, Denise J. Jamieson, Lee Warner, Maria F. Gallo, Tina Hylton-Kong, Athena P. Kourtis. “Effects of initiating a contraceptive implant on subsequent condom use: A randomized controlled trial”. *Contraception*. 2015 Jun 14. pii: S0010-7824(15)00247-4. doi: 10.1016/j.contraception.2015.06.009.
- **Baker, Hunter**, Okun, Farine. “Current practices in the prediction and prevention of preterm birth in patients with higher-order multiple gestations”. *Am J Obstet Gynecol*. 2015 May;212(5):671.e1-7

## **INCOME GENERATION**

### **Horace Fletcher**

- 2015 Prevention of Mother and Child Mortality, 1 Million Euro

### **Dr. Donnette Simms-Stewart**

- Twin Birth Study – US\$ 60,000
- FACT trial – US\$10,000

## **AWARDS**

### **Professor Horace Fletcher**

- 1 Elected first President of the Caribbean Gynecologic Cancer Society, In Appreciation for his leadership in the treatment of women with Gynecologic Cancer, Bridgetown, Barbados, February 6, 2015.
- 2 CARPHA award for Outstanding contribution in the area of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Research, CARPHA Conference, St Georges University, St Georges, Grenada, June 27 2015.

### **Dr. Tiffany Hunter Greaves**

Fellowship certificate received – University of Toronto – Maternal Fetal Medicine

## **PUBLIC SERVICE**

### **Professor Horace Fletcher**

- President, Cornwall College Old Boys Kingston Chapter
- Member, University Hospital Board
- Member, Medical Council of Jamaica
- Member, Ministry of Health Task Force to examine Doctors working Hours
- Member, Tony Thwaites Wing Risk Management Committee

- Chairman of The University Hospital Procurement Committee
- President of the Caribbean Gynecologic Cancer Society
- Peer Reviewer for the following journals:

*British Journal of Medicine and Medical Research,*

*Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology,*

*International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology; and*

*West Indian Medical Journal.*

**Dr. Tiffany Hunter Greaves**

- Member, PROMAC Committee

**Dr. S Kulkarni**

- Member, Jamaica MOH Maternal Mortality Audit Committee
- Member, Jamaica MOH Patient Affairs Audit Committee

**Dr. Carole Rattray**

- Vice President, the Caribbean Gynecologic Cancer Society
- Chairman, Ministry of Health Maternal Mortality Committee

**Dr. Donnette Simms-Stewart**

- Vice President, American College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Section 4, West Indies Chapter
- Vice Chairman, ACOG, West Indies Section

**STUDENT AWARDS/PRIZES**

Abigail Morris – MBBS Medal in Obstetrics & Gynaecology, June 2015