Dr. Bardawil performs landmark procedure

Tarek Bardawil, M.D., M.B.A., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was the first physician in Miami-Dade County to perform a single incision laparoscopic myomectomy, according to a representative from Applied Medical, the company that provides the technology used in single incision laparoscopic surgery.

Up to 80 percent of women in childbearing years suffer from fibroids, benign growths in the uterus. When fibroids cause bleeding, abdominal pressure and pain, a myomectomy is recommended for removal of the fibroids. This procedure allows the physician to remove fibroids and preserve a woman’s uterus and fertility.

Single incision laparoscopic surgery provides the advantage of a single incision.

Continued on the next page

OB/GYN Residents match at prestigious programs

The department invites you to join us in congratulating our residents for acceptance into the following fellowship programs:

Kathleen Brookfield, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H.
Maternal-Fetal Medicine at Stanford University

Yvette Cordova, M.D.
Maternal-Fetal Medicine at the University of Illinois, Chicago

Diana English, M.D.
Gynecology Oncology at Yale University

Marc Gualtieri, M.D.
Reproductive Endocrinology at the University of Southern California

Anupama Kathiresan, M.D.
Reproductive Endocrinology at the University of California Los Angeles

Jessica Stine, M.D.
Gynecology Oncology at the University of North Carolina

OB/GYN participates in United Way Campaign

The United Way campaign will run through December 3, 2011. Donations can be made online at myUM. Click on “United Way Contribution” in the lower left side of the home page under “Charitable Contributions,” then follow the instructions to make your donation.

United Way will distribute your donation according to your wishes. You can direct your donation to a university fund such as the Department of OB/GYN, or designate it to your favorite not-for-profit organization.

Please make your gift as a monthly deduction from your salary or as a one-time gift through payroll deduction, check, or credit card by going to myUM. If you have any questions concerning online giving, contact Gretchen Kroepil.

We appreciate your team effort!
Dr. Bardawil performs landmark procedure continued from page 1

“Since the incision is no more than two centimeters in length and is made in the belly button, the patient will have virtually no scarring, minimal pain and will also experience a quicker recovery time,” said Dr. Bardawil.

During the surgery, Dr. Bardawil used the GelPoint surgical port, made by Applied Medical. The port is inserted via the belly button and is then used to introduce the laparoscope, a small camera, and surgical instruments into the abdomen. The patient was able to go home the same day of her surgery.

Karen Tang, M.D., M.P.H., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was co-surgeon and Nahida Chakhtoura, M.D., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, assisted during the landmark procedure.

Traditionally, myomectomy was performed through a large incision in the abdomen, requiring the patient to remain hospitalized for a few days and experience a longer recovery period. Currently, most myomectomies are performed using laparoscopy or robotic surgery, in which multiple small incisions are made in the abdomen resulting in a faster recovery, less scarring and less pain. Single incision laparoscopic surgery further enhances those advantages.

UHealth now offers parenting classes

UHealth – University of Miami Health System is offering childbirth classes at the Medical Wellness Center to help parents prepare for this special time in their lives. The advantage of the UHealth program is that physicians are present for question and answer sessions.

University of Miami childbirth educators and obstetric and pediatric experts teach the classes, which cover pregnancy, labor and delivery, breastfeeding and newborn care. A session on infant and child CPR and car seat safety are available once a month.

“Our general obstetricians have been actively participating in these classes,” said Rabah Laoun, M.D., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology and director of UDeliver, the obstetrics program at UHealth. “It is really unique to have a doctor attend these classes and it is a great opportunity for parents.”

Classes are held on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Medical Wellness Center. Participants can park at Clinical Research Building parking garage. Parking will be validated.

The educational program is open to the public, regardless of whether parents are currently seeing a UHealth physician for their prenatal care. For more information or to register, call 305-689-7200 or visit www.uhealthbaby.com.

ACADEMIC NEWS


► Christopher Estes, M.D., M.P.H., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, presented Grand Rounds for the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine Department of Family Medicine on November 2, 2011. The title of his presentation was, “Emergency Contraception: A Review and A New Pill.”

► Karla Maguire, M.D., M.P.H., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, received an Outstanding Research Award at the Association of Reproductive Health Professionals meeting in Las Vegas, NV, held September 15-17, 2011. Her research was titled, "Intracervical 2% Lidocaine Gel for Analgesia During Intrauterine Device Insertion: A Randomized Controlled Trial.”


Continued on the next page
ACADEMIC NEWS

► Ruben Quintero, M.D., professor of obstetrics and gynecology, presented, “Intrauterine Treatment of Diaphragmatic Hernia,” at the 10th Annual Prenatal Medicine World Meeting held in Punta Del Este, Uruguay, November 8-11, 2011.

► Samer Schuman, M.D., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, recently directed a course on laparo-endoscopic single site gynecologic surgery. While Dr. Schuman performed surgery in the OR, the surgery was transmitted live via the web to course participants at the McKnight building.


Drs. Takacs, Medina and Yavagal are also coauthors on, “TGF-Beta1 is a Potential Regulator of Vaginal Tropoelastin Production,” accepted for publication in International Urogynecology Journal. [Takacs, Peter; Zhang, Yanping; Yavagal, Sujata; Chakhtoura, Nahida; Medina, Carlos; Candioti, Keith]

► Leo B. Twiggs, M.D., professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was invited to be a speaker at the 54th Annual Obstetrics and Gynecology Conference held in Brazil. The conference is hosted by the Brazilian Association of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology of Paraná.

QUOTED

► George Attia, M.D., associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was quoted in a story about a woman who preserved embryos before undergoing breast cancer treatment. The story was published in the Sun-Sentinel on October 27, 2011. http://tinyurl.com/3mcad7s

► J. Matt Pearson, M.D., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was quoted by the Miami Herald in a story featuring one of his patients, a Miami Springs woman battling ovarian cancer. The story was published on October 26, 2011. http://tinyurl.com/3ucqakq


► Leo B. Twiggs, M.D., professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was quoted in a story about one of his patients, a young woman battling ovarian cancer. http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/11/01/2483707_p2/miami-teen-battles-ovarian-cancer.html

COMMUNITY

Miller school students are coordinating a trip to the Central Plateau, Haiti to take place December 18-23. The group will fly into Port-au-Prince and from there, they will coordinate mobile clinics. Faculty and residents are welcome to attend. If you are interested in participating, contact medical student Ashish Shah.

HR CORNER

The department welcomes the newest members of the team:

► Dorothy Dulko is a nurse practitioner (ARNP) for the Division of Gynecologic Oncology.
Get to know Angela Fusté

Q: What is your official job title and when did you start with the Dept. of OB/GYN?
A: Director of Administration and Finance. I started October 2003 with OB/GYN, but started at UM in 1999.

Q: What are your main duties?
A: I oversee the overall operations and finances of the department. I work hand-in-hand with Ruth and Dr. Karmin to ensure the department's state of affairs are running as smoothly as possible with all the different changes that the university is experiencing such as the introduction of UChart, decline in healthcare reimbursement, etc.

Q: Prior to joining this department, what were you doing?
A: I was a division administrator in the UM Department of Pediatrics.

Q: What do you find most challenging about your job?
A: I'm a glass half-full type of person, so I welcome every challenge with open arms. I love to problem solve. It's never a dull moment in OB/GYN.

Q: What do you find most enjoyable about your job?
A: The people. I love the diversity this department has to offer. We may come from different backgrounds, but we always manage to join forces to deal with a task or find a solution.

Q: If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? Why?
A: That's a hard one because I would love to travel all over the world. But if I would have to choose, I would like to go back to Venice. I find it fascinating that numerous islands are connected via bridges. I love the ambiance and its architecture.

Q: What do you enjoy doing during your free time?
A: Free time? What free time?! As a mother of two, there is no free time. However, I always manage to coordinate an event for somebody's birthday, baby shower, or be the room parent for my child's class. I'm known as the Party Coordinator.

I love to party plan and make decorations.

Q: What is something that most people don't know about you?
A: I was Junior and Senior Class President at my high school. I'm currently planning our 20th high school reunion for next year. Our class had over 800 graduates, so it's going to be a big production.

Q: What song are you listening to most lately?
A: I don't have a specific song in mind. My husband and I love to dance so I like almost anything, except heavy metal.

Q: What's your favorite movie or book and why?
A: My favorite movies are romantic comedies. I don't have a specific one, but I love the Sex and the City series. It reminds me of the special bond I have with my two best friends.