

## **ACOG Iowa Section Report**

**November 2013**

The Iowa Section of (ACOG), The American College/Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists is made of 373 members (female 197, male 176). 20 ACOG Residents (AR), 1 Associate Fellows (AF), 17 Associate members (AM), 25 Educational Affiliate Students (EAS), 196 Fellows (F), 1 Founding Life Fellow (FL), 5 Fellow Senior Status (FSS), 1 Inactive Fellow (IF), 30 Junior Fellow in Practice (JFP), 5 Junior Fellow in Training-Fellowships (JFT-F), and 46 Life Fellows (LF). Education, research, political advocacy and service to women including internationally are the strengths of our membership.

ACOG workforce study for Iowa 2013 shows we have 239 Ob-Gyn physicians, 1.91/10,000 women, 4.13/10,000 women age 15-45 (national average is 2.65 and 4.52). 1.91/10,000 ranks us 51st in the United States behind Puerto Rico. 66 of Iowa's 99 counties do not have any Ob-Gyn physicians. 38% of Iowa's births are financed by Medicaid (41% nationally).

Iowa with an already low Ob-Gyn workforce anticipates with Medicaid expansion to have between a 25% and 36% increase in Medicaid enrollment by 2019. I don't think we will be able to continue to do things the way we always

have. With no meaningful liability reform achieved at the Federal level, the State of Iowa needs to do something. Future collaborative models with other providers including non-physician clinicians will be imperative.

The Iowa Section has been well represented yearly at the Annual (CLC) Congressional Leadership Conference The President's Conference. At the CLC in Washington D.C. March 3-5, 2013, our main objective was to ask our Congressional delegation to co-sponsor the Quality Care for Moms and Babies Act and support the Women's Health Resolution. Fellows attending included Susan Lipinski MD, Debra Piehl MD, Lisa Cookingham MD, Erin Eppsteiner MD, Thomas Gellhaus MD, Megan McDonald MD, Michael Woods MD, Thad Anderson MD and myself. After education on the issues we heard from 12 congressional legislators, went through ACOG Policy in depth, improved our lobbying skills and then visited both Iowa senators and all 4 congressional offices. Our requests were as follows:

1. Women's Health Resolution, emphasizing contraception access, keeping lawmakers out of our exam rooms and protecting Medicaid.

2. A C O G's Q u a l i t y Transformation, taking the Moms Initiative to the next level, leading our specialty and partners toward meaningful quality improvements including nonmedically indicated early elective deliveries and standard definitions to advance integration of performance measurement, registries, research, EHR's and birth certificates.

Iowa Section Fellows have been consulted and given testimony before the State Legislature this year on the ongoing licensing of lay midwives, breast density imaging, scope of practice issues and most recently on telemedicine restrictions imposed by the Iowa Board of Medicine Rule ARC 1034C. Certificate of merit legislation promoted by the Iowa Medical Society (IMS) was negotiated away at the last minute for property tax relief. The IMS Board commissioned a Tort Reform Task Force, which I chaired this year. I will meet with the Board December 10, 2013, in Iowa City to decide how to proceed into the 2014 session with those recommendations. A state Lobby Day will take place at the Capital in Des Moines Wednesday, February 5, 2014 (IMS Physicians Day on the Hill). We expect over 100 Physicians and students, typically 8-10 members representing ACOG attend, please put this on your calendars and participate.

Our section is well represented at the National level with Thomas Gellhaus MD, Asst. Secretary, Regionally with Thad Anderson, MD, District VI Treasurer, Marygrace Elson, MD, McCain Fellow 2014, and Aman Mahal, MD, Junior Fellow District VI Chair.

Curtis Page, MD, and Marygrace Elson, MD, serve on the IMS Board of Directors, Colleen Stockdale, MD, just finished a term on the Iowa Board of Medicine. I represent ACOG on the CAC, Carrier Advisory Committee for Medicare.

Deb Piehl, MD, serves on the Medical Services Committee, and Marygrace Elson, MD, on the IMS Legislative Committee.

Thad Anderson, MD, (chair), Lloyd Holm, DO, Stephen Hunter, MD PHD, Susan Lipinski, MD, Carolyn Martin, MD, and I are on the Maternal Mortality Committee. The IMS Annual meeting was held April 2013 in Iowa City, with a meeting planned April 2014 in Des Moines; a brief ACOG Iowa Section meeting will be held then. Anyone interested in serving as a delegate to the IMS Annual meeting representing ACOG should contact me.

The Iowa Section meeting was held October 18, 2013, at Hotel Vetro in conjunction with the University of Iowa Preeclampsia conference. Keynote speakers were Dr. James Martin, MD, past ACOG President and Dr. Thomas Easterling, MD. A luncheon meeting of the University of Iowa Ob-Gyn Alumni Society was held, Kelly Ward, MD, is the current Secretary-Treasurer, taking over for Jane Engeldinger, MD, who volunteered her services for many years. The Iowa Section meeting was held and the budget discussed. Support will continue for CLC for 2 Junior Fellows, 5-6 Fellows, The Leopold Society (a medical student Ob-Gyn interest group), and for Junior Fellows participation in International Medical Missions led and coordinated by

Thomas Gellhaus, MD. ACOG dues for the University of Iowa Ob-Gyn residents are also supported through our Iowa Section. The District VI Junior Fellows meeting was in Iowa City October 18-19, they plan to meet in Wisconsin 2014.

Section Officers for 2014 include Mike McCoy, MD, (chair), Marygrace Elson, MD, (vice-chair), Colleen Stockdale, MD, (secretary-treasurer), elections for officers will take place in 2015. Junior Fellow officers are Megan McDonald, MD, (chair) and Adrienne Racek, MD, (vice-chair).

Dr. Deborah Ann Turner, MD, JD, was inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame at the State Historical Building, Des Moines, IA, on August 24, 2013. She is the third doctor of 144 total inductees.

Dr. Kimberly Leslie, University of Iowa Ob-Gyn Department chair is planning a University of Iowa reception at the ACOG Annual Clinical Meeting (ACM) April 2014, Chicago, Illinois.

Mike McCoy, Iowa Section Chair