

ARHP

UPDATE

THE BI-MONTHLY CHRONICLE FOR AND ABOUT ARHP MEMBERS ♦ MAY/JUNE 2003

Join Your Colleagues in La Jolla for *Reproductive Health 2003*

ARHP will host its 40th annual meeting, *Reproductive Health 2003* (RH 2003), September 10th – 13th in La Jolla, California. RH 2003 is co-sponsored by the California Family Health Council, National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health, and Planned Parenthood® Federation of America.

It is now easier than ever to register for this highly regarded clinical conference. Registering online will save you time and money by allowing you to make your hotel, travel, and activity reservations at the same time—on one Web site—while avoiding the fees associated with paper registering. Go to www.arhp.org/conferences/ to register now.

Participants can earn up to 23

CME credits or 25 nursing contact hours. There will also be ample time for networking with colleagues at networking breakfasts and luncheons held each day.

Register online and save time and money by making your hotel, travel, and activity reservations at the same time

Reproductive Health 2003 clinical sessions will begin on September 10th with three concurrent pre-conferences: *HPV and Cervical Dysplasia-When and How to Screen and Treat*, *Reducing Teen Pregnancy: Helping Teens Make Healthy Decisions* and *Manual Vacuum Aspiration*

101. General sessions will take place September 11th – September 13th. Lecture topics include contraception, abortion, perimenopause, sexually transmitted infections, legislative and social issues, and much more.

RH 2003 includes a special expanded forum for research entitled *Advances in Reproductive Health*, scheduled to take place on September 11th and includes lectures and poster presentations. The deadline to submit abstracts is June 13th. All accepted abstracts will be published in the October issue of *Contraception*, ARHP's official journal. For additional information or to submit your abstract, go to www.arhp.org/abstract/.

For more information on RH 2003, contact Amy Swann, director of education at (202) 466-3825 or e-mail aswann@arhp.org.

Member Spotlight: Leah Beardsley



Leah Beardsley, BSN

If one were looking for an example of an ideal ARHP member, Leah Beardsley, director of clinical services in the division of medical

affairs at Planned Parenthood® Federation of America (PPFA), would quickly come to mind. She has been an ARHP member for many years, is highly motivated to improve the field of reproductive health, and expresses her personal commitment to women's health in her work. She has spent many years as a front-line health care provider and now applies her knowledge and experience to reproductive health practice and clinical policy at Planned Parenthood. She also serves on the planning committee for ARHP's annual meeting, *Reproductive Health 2003*.

"Working at PPFA has been extremely rewarding because of the commitment and ability of my colleagues and the organization. The clinical managers and affiliate advisors are my heroes, and PPFA clinicians are an inspiration," says Beardsley. "They give me a lot of the energy to do what I do."

To read the complete member spotlight, go to www.arhp.org/members/.

What's New?

Call for Abstracts
The deadline for submitting an abstract for *Reproductive Health 2003* is June 13th. Visit www.arhp.org/abstract/ for more information.

ARHP Responds to Study Linking Hormone Therapy to Dementia
Visit the *Hormone Therapy Resource Center* for more information.
www.arhp.org/hormonotherapy/

Meet the Corporate Advisory Board

ARHP is proud to present Wyeth Pharmaceuticals as this issue's featured member of the *Corporate Advisory Board* (CAB).

Wyeth has been a research-based company since its inception in the 1860s. Starting out as the owner of a small drugstore in Philadelphia, John Wyeth and his brother turned their business into a leading global pharmaceutical and biotechnology company, responsible for the discovery and development of some of today's most innovative pharmaceutical products.

Wyeth sells products in more than 140 countries, and has a portfolio that spans a wide range of therapeutic areas. The company's worldwide resources include more than 52,000 employees, manufacturing facilities on five continents, and a discovery and development platform encompassing pharmaceuticals, vaccines, and biotechnology. Wyeth Pharmaceuticals has leading products in cardiovascular disease, central nervous system, inflammation, hemophilia, oncology, vaccines, and women's health care.

As a worldwide leader in women's health care, Wyeth created the Women's Health Research Institute® in 1993 to centralize and expand the company's efforts in women's health care discovery, clinical research, and strategic global research alliances. The institute is the only organization in the pharmaceutical industry that is solely dedicated to research in women's health. It includes state-of-the-art laboratories dedicated to the identification of new products for the future, such as new steroids,

Member Feedback With Dr. Tyrer



Dr. Louise Tyrer

Dear Dr. Tyrer:

ARHP's meeting agenda always offers a lot of good information related to family planning issues such as contraception and abortion. Will Reproductive Health 2003 address other gynecologic topics as well?

Eli Boice, MD

Dear Dr. Boice:

You will be happy to learn that a large part of the program for *RH 2003* will focus on topics you may have in mind—beginning with a pre-conference session on HPV and cervical dysplasia. Other gynecologic issues scheduled for discussion during the meeting include hormone therapy, osteoporosis, DES, vaccination for STIs (HPV, herpes, and HIV), and an entire session devoted to cervical, vaginal, and pelvic conditions. New research will also be included in the *Advances in Reproductive Health* session.

The scope of ARHP's educational activities continue to grow, and members are encouraged to offer suggestions for future programming. The participant evaluation form for the *Reproductive Health* meeting includes a section specifically for this purpose, and you may also e-mail your ideas to conferences@arhp.org. They will be most welcome.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dr. Louise Tyrer".

ARHP Medical Director

The ARHP staff and board encourage comments, questions, and suggestions from members as part of an ongoing effort to respond to your needs. Please send your inquiries for Dr. Tyrer to ARHP, care of Ann McCall, membership manager, at 2401 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20037. You can also send an e-mail to amccall@arhp.org or fax to (202) 466-3826.

nonsteroidal molecules, and nonhormonal targets. The institute also cooperates with the major professional and public organizations to encourage a continuing emphasis on the health care issues that uniquely affect women.

The CAB is an independent membership organization managed by ARHP and composed of its industry supporters. For more information on the CAB, contact Becca Diller, director of development, at (202) 466-3825 or at bdiller@arhp.org.

Student Scholarships and Fellowships for *Reproductive Health 2003* Announced

For the third consecutive year, ARHP will offer a limited number of scholarships and fellowships to students who would like to attend ARHP's annual meeting, *Reproductive Health 2003*. The scholarship/fellowship program, *The Wyeth Pharmaceuticals New Leaders Award: Advancing a New Generation of Reproductive Health Professionals*, is made possible through an unrestricted educational grant from Wyeth Pharmaceuticals. A selection committee consisting of active ARHP members will choose the fellowship and scholarship recipients from those applicants whose main area of study or specialty is compatible with ARHP's mission and topical focus

areas, including family planning, contraception, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, urogenital disorders, abortion, menopause, cancer prevention and detection, sexual health, and infertility.

Fifteen fellowships will be awarded. The fellowship will cover registration fees, travel, and hotel accommodations associated with attending *Reproductive Health 2003*. Ten scholarships will also be awarded, and will cover registration fees to attend *Reproductive Health 2003*. For information about how to apply for a fellowship or scholarship, please contact Cynthia Lopez, program associate, at conferences@arhp.org, or call (202)466-3825

New Clinical Guide Launched

ARHP has launched *Postpartum Counseling: A Quick Reference Guide for Clinicians* that focuses on important areas for postpartum patients. The guide features a checklist for assessment and screening of patients' needs and concerns and a chart describing contraceptive options available to US women in the postpartum period. *Postpartum Counseling* is the first in a planned series of Quick Reference Guides designed as easy-to-use clinical tools. The guide may be ordered by calling (202) 466-3825 or visiting www.arhp.org/guide/. This guide was made possible by an unrestricted educational grant from GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare

New Cover, Better Service, Same Great Research

Beginning with the July issue, be on the look out for the newly designed cover of ARHP's journal, *Contraception*. Elsevier and ARHP have also dedicated new resources to improve customer service and fulfillment of the journal. Call (202)466-3825 or e-mail nbarolin@arhp.org for more information.



Health & Sexuality—Transcervical Sterilization: A Breakthrough in Expanding Options for Women

The most recent issue of *Health & Sexuality* focuses on permanent contraceptive methods now available to women in the US and other permanent methods currently in development. For women who have decided against future pregnancies, sterilization may be the ideal contraceptive choice. In fact about one quarter of all women between the ages of 15 and 44 rely on this method. For years the only sterilization method available to women was tubal ligation, a surgical procedure whereby the fallopian tubes are tied (ligated) to prevent sperm from meeting the egg. In November 2002, the US Food and Drug Administration approved the first transcervical sterilization method, Essure™, manufactured by Conceptus, Inc.

The Essure method involves placing a soft, flexible microinsert into each of the fallopian tubes that will eventually form scar tissue, occluding the tubes. Transcervical sterilization methods promise improved access and potentially lower cost for women who choose permanent contraception.

The transcervical sterilization issue of *Health & Sexuality* has been sent to all ARHP members and is available online at www.arhp.org/transcervical/. If you would like additional copies, please call (202) 466-3825 or go to www.arhp.org/store/. This issue was made possible by an unrestricted educational grant from Conceptus, Inc.

POLICY UPDATE

Violent Anti-Abortion Extremist Caught

On May 9th, James Kopp was sentenced to 25 years to life in prison for the murder of Dr. Barnett Slepian, a Buffalo, New York area abortion provider. Kopp was found guilty of second-degree murder for fatally shooting Slepian in his home in 1998.

On May 31st, Eric Robert Rudolph was arrested without incident in North Carolina. He is charged with the bombings at Olympic Park, a gay bar, and two abortion clinics. One of the abortion clinic bombings took place in Birmingham, AL, and killed an off-duty police officer and seriously injured Emily Lyons, a nurse at the clinic.

Emergency Contraception Bill Before Congress

The Emergency Contraception Education Act (S. 896) was introduced by Senator Patty Murray with three cosponsors and was referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions on April 11th, 2003.

Congresswoman Louise Slaughter introduced H.R. 1812 also on April 11th with 47 bipartisan cosponsors. It was referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Health.

The legislation outlined in both bills would direct the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to develop and distribute information on emergency contraception to the public and to

health care providers. The information may be disseminated directly or through arrangements with nonprofit organizations, consumer groups, institutions of higher education, Federal, State, or local agencies, clinics and the media.

The Emergency Contraception Education Act authorizes \$10 million for each of five years to carry out this campaign.

Anti-Contraception Amendment Defeated

Representative Marilyn Musgrave (R-CO) introduced an amendment to the Runaway, Homeless, and Missing Children Protection Act (HR 1925) that would have prevented project funds related to the bill from being used for contraceptive distribution to runaway and homeless teens. On May 15th, The House Education and the Workforce Committee defeated the amendment by a vote of 12 - 29. Representative

Musgrave may try to offer this amendment again when the bill reaches the House floor.

House Committee Votes to restore UNFPA Funding

On May 7th, The House Committee on International Relations voted 23-22 to approve an amendment to the fiscal year 2004 foreign operations authorization bill (HR 1950) that would restore funding for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). President Bush had earlier decided to withhold the \$34 million from the UNFPA, an action that is estimated to have resulted in 552,000 abortions and one million unintended pregnancies.

The House amendment would provide \$100 million over the next two years to the UNFPA, which provides health services—including contraception and counseling—to people in about 80 countries.

AIDS Bill Approved

On May 16th, the Senate approved a \$15 billion, five-year authorization for global HIV/AIDS programs in Africa and the Caribbean. The bill would provide \$3 billion a year for five years for AIDS treatment, prevention, and palliative care.

The prevention money would cover abstinence-only programs, condom distribution, and programs aimed at promoting faithfulness. The bill is receiving criticism from many family planning organizations because of its strong focus on abstinence.

The House passed a nearly identical bill on May 1st and the President is expected to sign it into law soon.

Unborn Victims of Violence Act Reintroduced

On May 7th, the 'Unborn Victims of Violence Act' was reintroduced in both the House (HR1997) and the Senate (S1019) sparked by the national attention to the Laci Peterson alleged murder case. The bill would make it a separate crime to harm or injure a fetus during the commission of another crime. Under this measure, the perpetrator could be charged with the crime regardless of whether he or she was aware of the woman's pregnancy.