



PSREI Newsletter

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Lyra Ruth Clemente-Chua, MD, FPOGS



This tidbit was supposed to be my contribution to the recently published POGS coffee table book, but it never saw the light there, so we are reproducing it here to lighten your day as you go through the sometimes depressing moments when patients call us to say that they are on day 1 of their menstrual cycles, after an IUI cycle. Today was just a day for me. I am cheering myself up.

The Reproductive Endocrinologist ...

... is the colleague you refer your patients to after having given your infertile patient one year of clomid (please don't do this!) to no avail.

... is the specialist that the infertile patient goes to with all hopes of getting pregnant because this is the specialist who is supposed to perform miracles with a wave of his IUI insemination catheter and a handful of injectables extracted from the depths of his top hat.

... is the serious nonsmiling "Doc" who peers at the patient with thick glasses or the single-blessed straight-faced "Doctora" who discusses such things as masturbation and the ethics thereof with the husband and asks such questions as "Do you have orgasms during sexual contact?" with the wife.

... is the physician who will discover and deal with some ticklish situations like a couple not getting pregnant because the husband still sleeps in his mother's bedroom, or the wife getting pregnant inspite of severe vaginismus. What can one do but congratulate the husband in this 2nd instance for having supersperms that can traverse the distance from the labia majora to the cervix and thence to the fallopian tubes.

... is the doctor who will feel the anguish of the patient who calls in to say she has another menstrual period, but has to

PSREI holds 12th annual confab

"New horizons in reproductive endocrinology and infertility" is the overlying theme as the 12th Annual PSREI Convention which reeled off yesterday at the EDSA Shangrila Hotel in Mandaluyong City. A banner attendance of REI doctors and enthusiasts showed up to listen to foreign speakers and local experts deliver the latest in the field. PSREI president Dr. Lyra Ruth Chua welcomed all participants to the two-day meet.

Keynote lectures from acclaimed experts from Asia and Europe head the array of relevant and highly anticipated talks in reproductive endocrinology and infertility. Prof. PC Wong from Singapore shall deliver two interesting lectures, "Ovarian Hyperstimulation Syndrome: Prevention and Treatment" and "Reducing Multiple Pregnancies in an IVF Program" while Dr. John Olofson from Sweden will talk on "Therapeutic Options in Ovulation Induction for PCOS patients". Other equally interesting topics in REI shall be delivered by acclaimed local experts.

The present board of trustees of PSREI consists of Dr. Lyra Ruth C. Chua (President), Dr. Corazon T. Lim (Vice President), Dr. Eileen M. Manalo (Secretary), Dr. Joan Tan-Garcia (Treasurer), Dr. Gilda G. Martinez (Auditor), Dr. Virgilio M. Novero, Jr. (PRO) and Dr. Noel Raymundo (Board Member).

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EDITOR'S CORNER

Virgilio M. Novero Jr., MD

Ethics and Practice Guidelines are a way of improving clinical standards!



One of the lesser casualties of typhoon Milenyo is the delay in the printing of the 2006 PSREI *Ethics and Practice Guidelines in ART and IUI* which was due to have been released during the 12th Annual Convention festivities. Painstakingly reviewed by the appointed members of the Society the past five months, it symbolizes a significant step in improving clinical performance and public acceptance for this controversial area in reproductive medicine. It was a responsibility that PSREI had to do sooner or later! So this slightly delayed major accomplishment/ milestone is set to be launched during the POGS convention instead.

Although the world's first IVF baby is already 28 years old and the Philippines' first IVF child nearly 10, many still consider local IVF practice in its infancy stage for a number of reasons (medical, ethical and social reasons included). However, in these recent years, with the increase in patients consulting about IVF and, soon after, a consequent increase in IVF procedures for infertile Filipinos both locally and abroad, there is now an increase in groups considering setting up new IVF laboratories and clinicians wanting to practice IVF. The very need for ethics and practice guidelines in ART is now at its peak.

Luckily, the PSREI is able to catch the issue at its proper time and the unknowing patients are protected. This way, hopefully, our country will avoid the problems besetting some of our Asian neighbors where IVF practice was unregulated for a while before guidelines were set up. By then, the damage had already been done.

Kudos to Dr. Chua and her team!

From the President ... from p. 1

maintain a cheerful and positive voice so that the patient does not lose hope. Try doing that when you feel like crying...

... will rejoice to high heavens with the couple when the 2nd line on the test strip tells us that a pregnancy has occurred. The rejoicing doubles when the transvaginal ultrasound screen shows the flutterings of the embryonic heart confirming the life that has begun inside the mother's womb. How appropriate is Psalm 139: 13-16 in this instance. Please read it and feel the awe that this specialist feels when she realizes that she has been given this unique privilege by our Creator of witnessing the stirrings of this precious being inside the uterus.

... will suddenly be inundated with referrals of several friends and relatives of a successful couple because he has been described and "the best" to them. Alas, whatever we do, only our Lord and Creator can create life.

As we once again hold our 12th Annual Convention, let us reflect on our roles as co-creators of life, a tremendous responsibility and privilege given to us by our own Creator and Lord of our lives. Let us read each and every line of the Ethical Guidelines that our committee has crafted after a two day intensive, live-in workshop and follow these guidelines well. Let us listen to what our selected experts and speakers say on the topics our Scientific Committee has chosen and learn more about how to deal with our infertile couples, our menopausal women, our adolescents, our PCO and recurrent abortion patients – all of them deserve the best possible care we could give them. This is the least we could do for them.

PSREI Newsletter

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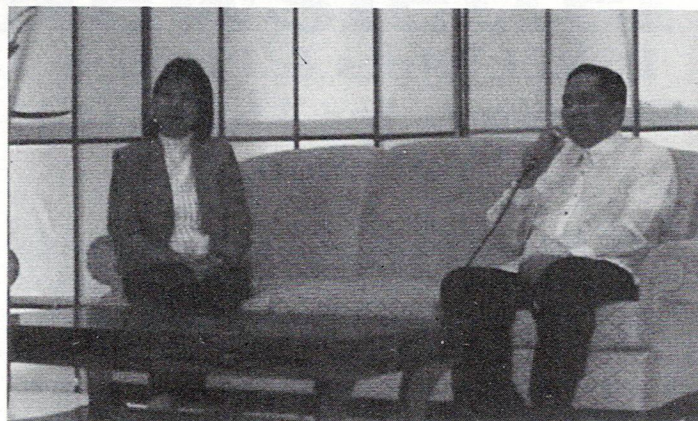
Contributor

Outreach programs by PSREI

Three down and one to go. That's the score so far on the number of outreach programs completed by the PSREI as organized by the Committee on Continuing Medical Education headed by Dr. Blanca De Guia, herself a past president. Postgraduate courses in the cities of Cebu, Baguio and Davao have so far been successfully completed, while only the Laoag City leg has to be delivered.

Last March 4, 2006, 35 participants attended the first of the four-part series of PSREI Outreach programs at the Waterfront Hotel in Cebu City. PSREI President Dr. Lyra Ruth C. Chua gave a lecture on the "Medical Management of Endometriosis" while PRO Dr. Virgilio Novero, Jr. gave his talk on "Treating Infertile Women over 40".

The second outreach program was held last April 9, 2006 at the Camp John Hay Manor in Baguio City where 98 attendees participated. Dr. Blanca De Guia gave a talk on "Surgical management of Endometriosis" while Dr. Joan Tan-Garcia gave



Cebu Outreach. Dr. Lyra Ruth C. Chua and Dr. Virgilio Novero Jr. during the open forum.



Outreach lecturers and some Cebu participants.



Baguio Outreach. PSREI Officers, Dr. Lyra Ruth C. Chua, Dr. Joan Tan Garcia, Dr. Blanca De Guia, Dr. Rosalinda Arceo with the Region I Chapter headed by Dr. Betha Fe Castillo.



Baguio Outreach. Dr. Blanca C. De Guia, Dr. Lyra Ruth C. Chua and Dr. Joan Tan-Garcia.

her talk on the topic - "Appropriate Hormonal Evaluation and Timing During Ovulation". Dr. Chua gave her lecture on "Medical Management of Endometriosis."

The most recently completed provincial postgraduate was the one conducted in Davao City at the Marco Polo Hotel. That activity was attended by 30 participants where 3 lectures and a video presentation were delivered. Dr. Tan-Garcia opened the session with a lecture on the "Guidelines in the Treatment of Endometriosis", Dr. Gilda Martinez gave a lecture on "The Medical Management of Endometriosis" followed Dr. Cora Lim's lecture on "Applications of Endoscopy in Infertility". Dr. de Guia capped the occasion by running through a video presentation on "Hysteroscopic Myomectomy".

Come November 25, 2006, Drs. Eileen Manalo and Noel Raymundo will travel to Fort Ilocandia in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte for the last of the outreach programs.

News Bits

PSREI Ethics & Practice Guidelines for ART & IUI out soon

The first ever Ethics & Practice guidelines for ART/IUI have been finalized and the printed copy shall be distributed during the forthcoming POGS Annual Convention. Approved by the PSREI Board and originally planned to be distributed during the PSREI Annual Convention, this much anticipated set of guidelines includes ethics and practice guidelines in IVF, preimplantation genetic diagnosis, requirements in setting up an IVF lab, guidelines for IVF practitioners, and the like.

These guidelines were a project of the present Board of Trustees of the PSREI and the Committee for the formulation of Ethics & Practice Guidelines for ART & IUI.

Attention: All Interested participants to the IFFS 19th World Congress on Fertility & Sterility (Durban, South Africa; April 30, 2007)

Individual Incentive

All members who express interest to attend this convention either through the official website or through the PSREI e-brochure will be awarded a one-day wildlife safari to Hluhluwe wildlife reserve which is located near Durban.

Group Incentive

The PSREI is gathering the list of would-be participants to the Durban IFFS Convention in order to avail of one free participant for every 20 members registered. The benefits of this promotion will be shared among all participants in the list. For particulars, please contact the PSREI secretariat.

New PSREI Fellows

The Society welcomes to its fold five new fellows who have recently passed the written and oral examinations for membership given last September 24, 2006. The new fellows are: Dr. Romerico Torres, Dr. Janice Bernal-Lacuna, Dr. Judith Galang-Perez, Dr. Rosiebel Esguerra and Dr. Ma. Asuncion Fernandez. They will be formally inducted to the Society in brief ceremonies to be held in this year's annual convention.



PARTICIPANTS: MAY 2006 ETHICS WORKSHOP

Back Row (L - R): Drs. Noel Raymundo, Leonardo Almeda, Ms. Angela Ho, Melissa Diawatan, Concepcion Ilao-Oreta, Virgilio M. Novero Jr., Rogelio P. Mendiola, Marlyn T. Dee, Gilda G. Martinez, Eileen M. Manalo, Blanca C. De Guia, Ma. Victoria R. Tan, Mr. Jess Basuel.

Front Row (L - R): Drs. Corazon T. Lim, Lyra Ruth Clemente-Chua, Santiago A. Del Rosario, Augusto Manalo, Marita Reyes, Fr. Manuel Perez, S.J., Antonio Rebosa, LLB., Lilia P. Luna, Rosalinda B. Arceo, Ma. Trinidad R. Vera.