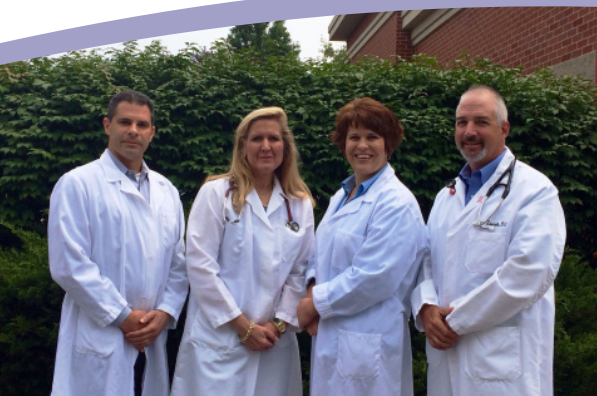


# WomenCare Quarterly

News, announcements, and vital information about Catholic Health WomenCare for WNY physicians.

October 2014



## Hamburg Regional GYN Group

Hamburg Regional Gynecology is one of the area's leading gynecological medical groups. Located at 4154 McKinley Parkway in Blasdell, the practice has provided the finest level of gynecologic care to patients in WNY and beyond for over 40 years.

Currently, Hamburg Regional Gynecology Group includes **Scott Zuccala, DO**; **Philip Lauria, MD**; **Donna Vogt, CNP**; and **Amy Bennett, CNP**. Practicing solely in gynecology, Hamburg Regional Gynecology provides women individualized and compassionate care in a warm and nurturing environment.

The physicians provide advanced laparoscopic surgery at Mercy Hospital of Buffalo, including daVinci® hysterectomy and treatment of fibroids. The group also specializes in the treatment of endometriosis, pelvic pain and bleeding disorders; contraception management; urogynecology; and dropped bladder and uterus. Additional services include DEXA scanning, sonohystergrams, and general preventive yearly exams. Through these services, Hamburg Regional Gynecology is able to serve and care for over 30,000 patients each year.

The practice offers same day appointments with their guaranteed non-automated phone lines. Most insurances are accepted, and new patients are always welcome. An online medical library, patient history forms, and other interactive tools on their website provide convenience for their patients.

For more information about Hamburg Regional Gynecology, visit [www.hamburgobgyn.com](http://www.hamburgobgyn.com) or call (716) 649-6500.

## OB/GYN Associates of WNY

OB/GYN Associates of Western New York ("OGA") is a leading OB/GYN practice in the Western New York area. Their Lancaster office at 4845 Transit Road opened in 1997. Opened in 2007, OGA's second location in Orchard Park is quickly becoming a hub for women's medical services. Providers of laboratory and radiology services have also opened offices at the same address, making 3050 Orchard Park Road a destination for women's health care.

OGA prides itself on being the only practice in the area able to provide comprehensive obstetrical and gynecologic care to patients. Besides routine obstetrical and gynecologic care, their services include on-site maternal fetal medicine, reproductive endocrinology, infertility, and gynecologic and breast cancer services.

A premier provider of minimally invasive surgery, OGA performs a large number of Mercy Hospital's robotic-assisted and other minimally invasive gynecologic surgery volume. In 2014, Mercy Hospital was again rated five stars by Healthgrades® for GYN surgery — the third year in a row earning this prestigious award.

In 2013, with assistance from Catholic Health, OGA established its own Baby Café. On Thursday evenings, the practice transforms into a breastfeeding drop-in center where new and pregnant moms can meet one another, enjoy refreshments, and get one-on-one support from a Certified Lactation Consultant (CLC). OGA is fortunate to have two CLCs on staff to help new mothers with breastfeeding. Thanks in part to these efforts, the NYS Department of Health has designated OGA the first and only private "Breastfeeding Friendly" practice in Western New York.

In 1991, OGA began offering midwifery services, dedicated to providing patients with personalized family-centered prenatal, delivery and postpartum care. Midwives work closely with OGA's physicians and Mercy Hospital to ensure a positive birth experience.

OGA's board certified physicians include: **Carlos A. Santos, MD**; **Carmen M. Todoro, MD**; **Brian G. Smith, MD**; **Catherine Falkner, MD**; **Jeffrey Constantine, MD**; **Shiela Pieczonka, DO**; **Jennifer Rojek, MD**; and **Afshan Samad, MD**. The practice also includes two Certified Nurse Midwives, **Kimberly Mecca** and **Kelly Vargo**.

OGA recently added two new physicians to the practice, Perinatologist **Jay Bolnik, MD** and OB/GYN **Susan Littler, MD**.

After 28 years, OB/GYN Associates is still a growing practice, with 4,000 new patients last year representing a 10% growth in patient volume. Evening and Saturday morning hours are available for patient convenience.

OB/GYN Associates provides high quality and compassionate care, personalized for each patient. They may be reached at [www.ogawnyc.com](http://www.ogawnyc.com) or (716) 675-5222.



# News Briefs



## Welcome Dr. Meesala

**Mrinalini Meesala, MD**, has been appointed Medical Director of Women's Cardiac Services at Catholic Health. A cardiologist practicing at Sisters Hospital and St. Joseph Campus, she is a member of Cardiology Group of WNY and is board certified in internal medicine. Dr. Meesala received her medical degree from Osmania

Medical School in Hyderabad, India in 2002; completed a residency at Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia, PA, where she received Resident of the Month award; and stayed on at Drexel University for a cardiovascular fellowship. Dr. Meesala is a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology, and a member of the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology. She is active with the American Heart Association where she participates in the annual "Go Red for Women" campaign.

## Erie County Program Offers Cancer Screenings

The Cancer Services Program (CSP) of Erie County, funded by the NYS Department of Health and The Centers for Disease Control, provides cancer screening services to those who have little or no health insurance. Breast and cervical cancer screenings are provided for women age 40 and over, and include a clinical breast exam, pelvic exam, Pap test, and mammogram. Colon cancer screenings are available for men and women 50 and over. CSP covers the cost of diagnostic testing following an abnormal result from a breast, cervical or colon cancer screening, and connects patients to one of 150 providers within the CSP network.

**To learn more, call 858-7376 or visit CSPWNY.org.**

## Natural Family Planning Interns in the News

Congratulations to our first NFP interns on completing their education at the Pope Paul XI Institute in Toronto. In addition to two intensive week-long seminars on the Creighton Method of NFP, **Sarah Dolph** and **Maria Gehl** finished their internships, supervised by **Mary Zablocki** at the Piver Center and **Jeanne Karnath** at Mercy Hospital. The internships were their practicum and also provided real world experience in counseling NFP patients. Certification exams are in November.

## WomenCare Offers Speakers' Bureau to Area Practices

WomenCare is proud to offer a free speakers' bureau to educate your patients and staff on relevant health topics. Our presenters are seasoned nurses, therapists, nurse practitioners, and dietitians. Some topics are: heart health, menopause, breast density and cancer risk, arthritis, urinary incontinence, and more. **To arrange a program, call 862-2182 or email ssortentino2@chsbuffalo.org.**

## Physicians and Clinicians ... Share Your Expertise

Be a featured panel speaker at an upcoming Catholic Health community event! WomenCare and Catholic Health's Community Outreach present doctor-to-community programs on current health topics several times a year. Recent topics included pelvic mesh, uterine fibroids, and women's cardiac health. Physicians who have participated in these events say they have garnered referrals and increased private practice volume as a result of directly connecting with the public in this way. **For more information, please call Community Outreach at 706-2552.**

## Free Bone Density Screenings for Your Patients

WomenCare's team can provide Sahara bone density screenings to your patients, a simple one minute heel test to determine risk for fractures. Health educators also provide counseling on nutrition, weight bearing exercise, and how to prevent falls. **To offer this valuable free service to your patients, please call 862-2182.**

## Upcoming WomenCare Community Events

WomenCare is proud to offer valuable community events throughout the year. Upcoming events include:

October 28	Transformative Power of Birth
November 20	Ask us Anything About Your Health
December 4	Mature Women's Health

**To learn more, visit [chsbuffalo.org/events](http://chsbuffalo.org/events) or call 447-6205.**

## Pink Pillow Project

Earlier this year, volunteers and survivors joined surgeon Dr. Ronald Bauer at a press conference to commend two special groups for the work they do supporting breast surgery patients: **The Pink Pillow Project** and the **Twin City Quilters Guild**. These two volunteer organizations provide post-surgery patients with pillows to be placed under the arm to aid in recovery. To date, over 4,500 pillows have been donated by the two groups.



*Dr. Ron Bauer addresses the media on the importance of the donated pillows to his patients; From left to right: survivor Denise Hulse; Nancy Keilar and Lisa Smith from Pink Pillow project; Linda Goodine and Patty Kuriscak from the Twin City Quilters Guild.*

## Unyts Placenta Donation Program

The miracle of life is an amazing thing. Giving the gift of healing is too! Now, Western New York pregnant women have the opportunity to do both through the Unyts Placenta Donation Program.

The Unyts Placenta Donation Program started in 2009 and since then, 110 moms have participated in the program. With the partnerships of Mercy and Sisters of Charity Hospitals, Western New York women have been able to cherish the miracle of their new baby, while giving the gift of healing to transplant recipients.

Each placenta can potentially help dozens of transplant patients. So how can you get involved? Any mom-to-be who has a planned cesarean section delivery is eligible to donate, as long as their physician is a participating member of the Unyts Placenta Donation Program. Unyts partners with many OB/GYN physicians and physician groups in our community in order to grow this wonderful program.

The placenta donation process is safe, simple, painless, free and rewarding. Interested donors should consult their physician and contact the Unyts Donor Referral Center at (716) 853-6667 ext: 5. For all other inquiries, please contact Bonnie Scioli, Unyts Eye and Tissue Clinical Liaison, at (716) 512-7911.