

# O B G Y N

Issue N° 02 Fall 2011 Newsletter



Our lives are dedicated to yours

## AUBMC TO BECOME A COLLABORATING CENTER FOR THE WOMAN TRIAL



Obstetric hemorrhage is the leading cause of maternal mortality, accounting for one quarter to one third of deaths, most of which occur in the postpartum period.

The WOMAN Trial, a large, pragmatic, multicenter, randomized, double blind, and placebo-controlled trial aims to determine the effect of the early administration of tranexamic acid on mortality, hysterectomy and other morbidities among 15,000 women with clinically diagnosed postpartum hemorrhage.

Coordinated by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in the United Kingdom, the WOMAN Trial has so far recruited 2,000 women. AUBMC will soon take part in it under the supervision of the local principal investigator, Dr. Anwar Nassar.

After the positive feedback we received following the release of the first issue of **OBS/GYN Wire**, we are proud to release the second issue, which highlights some of our faculty members' achievements in research, and sheds light on the participation of our Department in the WOMAN Trial, an international multicenter trial, as well as other events. Dr. Fayez Suidan is our featured guest for this issue.

Sincerely,  
**Anwar Nassar, MD**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

## SINGLE PORT LAPAROSCOPY NOW OFFERED FOR GYNECOLOGICAL SURGERIES

Minimally invasive access is being accepted more widely in many surgical specialties. Single port laparoscopy (SPL) is one of its newest advances. It allows the introduction and manipulation of the scope and instruments through an umbilical incision of about 2 cm. Its advantages are less postoperative pain and blood loss, faster recovery time, and better cosmetic results. The first described SPL procedure was a cholecystectomy in 1997, following which gynecologists, general surgeons and urologists started to implement this technique.

In September 2011, Drs. Joseph Nassif and Antoine Abu-Musa performed the first single port gynecological surgery for pelvic adhesions with reusable instruments in Lebanon at AUBMC (Fig. 1 and Fig. 2). The patient was pain-free postoperatively and was discharged home a few hours following her surgery.



Fig. 1 – Single port system

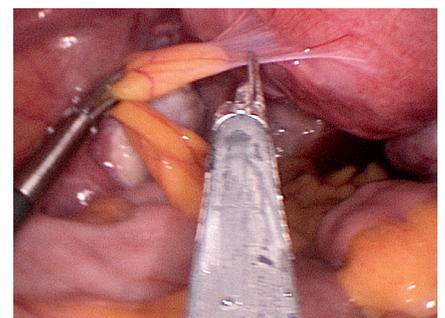


Fig. 2 – Pelvic view

## CONGRATULATIONS

- Dr. Johnny Awwad was elected President of the Middle East Fertility Society for a two-year term effective November 2011.
- Dr. Abdallah Adra was recently elected President of the Mediterranean Association of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology (MEDUOG) for a three-year term.

## ACADEMIC NEWS

- Dr. Anwar Nassar was a speaker at the Annual Conference of the Lebanese Society of Family Medicine – *“Family Medicine across the Life Cycle”* held on October 14-16, 2011, at Bristol Hotel. The lecture was entitled: “Common questions asked by the pregnant to the family doctor.”
- Dr. Joseph Nassif was a faculty member of the Post Graduate Course on “Deep Infiltrating Endometriosis” during the 20th Annual Congress of the European Society for Gynecological Endoscopy (ESGE) – London, held on September 21-24, 2011. He presented talks on “Bowel endometriosis: segmental resection” and “Frequent and rare complications in advanced laparoscopic surgery for deep infiltrating endometriosis.” He was also the chairperson of the free communication session on myomectomy, office and diagnostic hysteroscopy – single access surgery, the plenary session on “Avoiding and treating complications in endoscopic surgery” and of the Middle East Society for Gynecological Endoscopy. He also had two oral presentations: “Deep infiltrating endometriosis of the bladder and ureter: surgical strategy and results” and “Bowel herniation after laparoscopic sacral mesh fixation.”
- Dr. Johnny Awwad was the Congress Chairperson of the 18th Annual Meeting of the Middle East Fertility Society that was held on November 16-19, 2011, in Beirut.
- Dr. Fadi Mirza was an invited speaker for grand rounds at the Department of Pediatrics at AUBMC, and Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at RHUH. The title of his presentation was: “Antenatal Corticosteroids: A Leap into the Late Preterm Pregnancy?”
- Dr. Labib Ghulmiyyah was invited by Dialeb, a non-profit association created in 2011 to promote diabetes care and prevention, and support research in search for a cure, to be their first speaker in a series of talks about diabetes. Entitled “Diabetes during Pregnancy,” his presentation took place at the Al Yarz Leisure Club on September 23, 2011, and was highly attended by the community.
- Dr. Anwar Nassar was invited to serve on the Editorial Board of The Scientific World Journal.
- Dr. Abdallah Adra was invited to the 8th Annual Congress of the Mediterranean Association of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology (MEDUOG) that took place on September 22-24, 2011, in Belgrade. He gave two presentations on “Fetal Ultrasound Findings of Borderline Clinical Significance” and “Short Cervix in Pregnancy.”

## PUBLICATIONS

- Gabriel B, Nassif J, Trompoukis P, Barata S, Wattiez A. Prevalence and Management of Urinary Tract Endometriosis: A Clinical Case Series. *Urology* 2011. Sep 28. [Epub ahead of print]
- Seoud M, Tjalma WA, Ronsse V. Cervical adenocarcinoma: Moving towards better prevention. *Vaccine* 2011. Oct 6. [Epub ahead of print]
- Mirza FG, Bauer ST, Williams IA, Simpson LL. Early Fetal Echocardiography: Ready for Prime Time? *Am J Perinatol*. [In Press]

## ALUMNI NEWS

- After completing three years of OBS/GYN residency at AUBMC, **Dr. Elie Hobeika** graduated from Eastern Virginia Medical School in June of 2009 and became board certified in December 2010. He then joined the Sutter Health System in California where he is practicing as a private general OBS/GYN. He was recently appointed as the program director there. Elie is married to Randa Alam and they have a little girl named Kaya-Lynn.
- **Dr. Tarek Harb** finished his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at AUBMC in 2002, and then joined Emory University where he completed four years of training. He became board certified in OBS/GYN and is currently working at the University of Illinois in Chicago, as a Clinical Assistant Professor with special interest in minimally invasive surgery. Tarek is married to Sana Atiyah. They have two girls: Lea, 7, and Karen, 3.

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT: DR. FAYEZ SUIDAN

**Q: When did you join the department of OBS/GYN?**

A: In 1962.

**Q: What is your title?**

A: Associate Clinical Professor.

**Q: What are your main duties?**

A: Caring for patients and teaching residents and students.

**Q: Prior to joining this department, what were you doing?**

A: I was a resident of OBS/GYN at the University of Chicago and resident of surgery at AUBMC.

**Q: If you were not doing this job, what would you have chosen to do?**

A: I would have chosen to be a urologist.

**Q: What do you enjoy most about your job?**

A: The charming environment in the department and the satisfaction in achieving my aims.

**Q: What do you find most challenging about your job?**

A: Learning new techniques, like laparoscopy.

**Q: If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you choose to go and why?**

A: The University of Chicago, where I was greatly appreciated.

**Q: What do you enjoy doing during your free time?**

A: Surfing the net and listening to classical music.

**Q: Tell us something that most people don't know about you.**

A: I do not like to appear publicly.

**Q: What is your weakness?**

A: I do not like to show off.

**Q: Who is your favorite artist?**

A: Saint-Saëns, Tchaikovsky, and Beethoven.

**Q: What is your favorite song these days?**

A: Tchaikovsky's 1st Piano Concerto.

**Q: What is the movie or book you recently enjoyed watching or reading?**

A: The "Mad Adventures of Rabbi Jacob" by Louis de Funes.



## READERS' CORNER



\*Congratulations.  
This is a brilliant idea.

\*Really great idea and  
execution! Congratulations.

\*This is a wonderful initiative  
and I really liked the  
newsletter!

\*It was spirit uplifting...  
Hope that we will continue  
to receive it to keep track  
of our mother department.

\*Very nice work. It is so nice  
to see that people at all levels  
are recognized.

\*Briefly, the newsletter is very  
interesting to all readers,  
not only the members of  
the Department, but to the  
AUBMC community and our  
alumni, as well...  
It's informative and has a  
wonderful artistic touch.

\*Congratulations on this  
initiative. Not only does  
it keep the AUBMC family  
connected, but it is also  
very professional in design  
and content.

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and Gynecology**

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**Departmental Leadership**

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