



Society for Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research

April 2006

President's Corner

This Year's Annual Meeting

Mary L. Hediger, PhD

At this time last year in this space, Past President David Savitz called again for SPER to take on a more active role in the research community and reach out to form alliances with other organizations for our meetings. It was an impassioned and well-reasoned plea. We took it to heart, and as you can see this year SPER has partnered with the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Epidemiology to put together a state-of-the-art symposium on asthma epidemiology and prevention at the Epidemiology Congress and is inaugurating an Advanced Methods Workshop in collaboration with the American Statistical Association Statistics in Epidemiology Section. Now we need to continue and take SPER on the road, by insinuating our name and members at other people's meetings. If you have ideas for ways to do this or meetings or organizations where you would like SPER to be involved, sponsor a symposium or officially partner, let any of us know. It can only make us stronger.

At the beginning of my term, I also made it a goal to increase student participation in the functioning of the Society and at our meetings. Our student representatives have done an amazing job this year, both at outreach and organizing. That and the fact that joining SPER is so inexpensive this year

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Dr. Irvin Emanuel to Deliver Keynote Address, SPER 2006

Dr. Irvin Emanuel, Emeritus Professor from the Departments of Epidemiology and Pediatrics at the University of Washington, will deliver this year's keynote address titled "What history tells us about maternal and child health". Dr. Emanuel will talk from his nearly 50 years of scientific and academic experience in the areas of birth defects, pediatrics, neonatal medicine and his pioneering work on the intergenerational aspects and consequences of intrauterine growth and pregnancy outcome.



Dr. Irvin Emanuel

2006 SPER Annual Meeting

SPER will hold the 19th annual meeting on June 20-21, 2006, at the Westin Seattle Hotel in Seattle, Washington. The meeting will include a poster session and opening reception on the evening of the 20th and a full day of plenary sessions with a poster session on the 21st. Information concerning registration will be mailed electronically and by post to our members. The link is available at our website (www.sper.org). A preliminary program is included in this newsletter, and the full program will be available on our website later this spring.

If you have questions about the meeting format or schedule, please contact Dawn Misra, SPER Secretary by phone: (734) 647-7944; fax: (734) 763-7379; or email: dmisra@umich.edu.



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2006 National MCH Epidemiology Awards: A Search to Recognize Excellence

Have you, your colleagues or others you know made significant public health contributions for women, children and families through effectively using data? Do you know someone whose MCH research is having a community, state or national impact? Would you want to recognize this work nationally? Take time now to reward someone for excellence in MCH epidemiology.

Sponsored by 15 national public health organizations, the Coalition for Excellence in MCH Epidemiology announces the sixth year of the **National MCH Epidemiology Awards**. The Coalition is recruiting nominees for the 2006 awards. Nominees are individuals, teams, institutions, and leaders of institutions who have made significant contributions to improving the health of women, children and families through epidemiology, applied research and the effective use of data.

These awards recognize research, teaching, leadership and effective public health practice and recognize individuals and organizations at a community, state and national level.

Please visit <http://www.citymatch.org/mchepiawards.htm> for more details on how to nominate and the awards criteria. Deadline for nominations will be June 1, 2006.

Dr. Mark Klebanoff is the SPER representative and you can contact him if you have suggestions or to discuss nominations (klebanom@exchange.nih.gov). Otherwise, please contact Dr. Juan Acuna if you have questions or need assistance at:

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2006 Student Prize Paper Award We have a winner!

Michael S. Bloom, PhD, is the recipient of this year's Student Prize and will be presenting his paper, "Selecting controls is not selecting 'normals': design and analysis issues for studying the etiology of polycystic ovary syndrome", at the Annual Meeting.

Joint SPER-AAP Section on Epidemiology Symposium at Epidemiology Congress

With funding from Novartis Pharmaceuticals[®], SPER and the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Epidemiology are sponsoring a symposium at the 2006 Epidemiology Congress. The symposium will be on June 22, 1:30 PM to 5:00 PM. CME credits (2.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits[™]) through the University of Utah (Joseph B. Stanford, MD, Course Director) will be offered.

Insights from the Epidemiology of Asthma: Population-Based Approaches to Prevention of the Disease

Featured Talks and Speakers:

- Hygiene Theory and Allergy and Asthma Prevention
Andrew H. Liu, MD, National Jewish Hospital, Denver, CO
- Maternal Stress and the Development of Asthma
Rosalind J. Wright, MD, Brigham & Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
- Gene-Environment Interactions and the Development of Asthma
Fernando D. Martinez, MD, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
- Trial of Infant Probiotic Supplementation (TIPS) to Prevent Asthma
Michael D. Cabana, MD, University of California, San Francisco, CA
- Does Breastfeeding Help Prevent Asthma and Allergy? Evidence from a Randomized Trial in Belarus
Michael S. Kramer, MD, McGill University, Montréal, Québec, Canada
- Viral Respiratory Infections and the Development of Asthma
Robert F. Lemanske, Jr., MD, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

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has made us attractive to students, and our numbers are going up. We may probably never be everyone's primary professional affiliation, but we should aim at being second on most lists.

Finally, I have to thank you all for again submitting your very best work to SPER for our meeting. I had a varied and solid set of abstracts from which to choose. This year's program is perhaps less thematic because there were fewer natural clusters, but it has a little bit of everything to keep you interested. There will be some new voices heard from the podium, along with old friends.

Make your plans for Seattle. We hope to see you all there.

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

2:00-5:00 PM Advanced Methods Workshop

4:00-6:00 PM Registration

6:30-8:00 PM Reception & Poster Session A

Methods
Reproduction
Environmental Exposures
Birth Defects
Social & Psychological Factors
Nutrition & Outcomes
Preeclampsia
Maternal Factors
Labor & Delivery
Neonatal & Infant Mortality
Pediatrics

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

8:15-8:30 AM Welcome
Mary L. Hediger, President

8:30-9:45 AM Plenary Session I: Twinning, Mortality, & Early Loss

Moderator: Deborah Nelson

- Twinning and estimated fecundability.
RM Ferrari
- Perinatal mortality among twins and triplets: a comparison of methods to control for differences in gestational age distributions.
AM Branum
- Day-to-death infant mortality, 1989-91 versus 1999-01: postponement or prevention?
B Luke
- Caffeine intake during pregnancy and the risk of miscarriage, a population-based cohort study.
DK Li
- Circulating cytokines and early fetal loss.
BW Whitcomb

10:15-11:30 AM Plenary Session II: Nutrition, Lipids, Preterm Delivery

Moderator: Barbara Luke

- Periconceptional multivitamin use and the risk of preeclampsia. *LM Bodnar*
- The association between dyslipidemia and preterm delivery. *AM Siega-Riz*
- Early pregnancy cholesterol and triglyceride concentrations are higher in women with preterm delivery. *JM Catov*
- Chorioamnionitis and preterm delivery.
C Holzman
- Women's early-life exposure to neighborhood poverty and preterm birth: a population-based study. *JA Wambach*

11:30-11:45 AM Student Prize Presentation

Michael S. Bloom

Selecting controls is not selecting 'normals': design and analysis issues for studying the etiology of polycystic ovary syndrome

11:45-1:45 PM Lunch and Poster Session B

Methods
Twins & Multiples
Birth Defects
Preconceptional & Prenatal Care
Social & Psychological Factors
Nutritional Issues & Maternal Overweight
Gestational Diabetes Mellitus
Maternal Factors
Birthweight & SGA
Preterm Delivery
Pediatrics

1:45-2:30 PM Keynote Address: Dr. Irvin Emanuel
What History Tells Us about Maternal and Child Health

2:30-3:15 PM Plenary Session III: Neonatal Issues

Moderator: Gary Shaw

- Blood spot banks: an underutilized resource for newborn screening program development, the example of cystic fibrosis. *M Kharrazi*
- Does maternal antenatal hypoxia affect the risk of persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn? *MM Werler*
- Does breastfeeding make kids smarter? New evidence from a large randomized trial.
MS Kramer

3:45-4:45 PM Plenary Session IV: Maternal Obesity & Diabetes

Moderator: Jean Lawrence

- Global gene expression profiling in whole blood samples from obese and lean women in early pregnancy. *M Meller*
- Manifestations of vascular and metabolic disorders in pregnancy and the risk of type 2 diabetes. *C Zhang*
- Risk of large-for-gestational age birth in relation to changes in prepregnancy body-mass index between the first and second pregnancies.
D Getahun
- Prospective study of maternal sleep duration and postpartum weight retention. *EP Gunderson*

4:45-5:00 PM Closing Remarks

5:00-6:00 PM Business Meeting

UCSF-CHE Summit on Environmental Challenges to Reproductive Health and Fertility



University of California
San Francisco School
of Medicine (UCSF)

Collaborative on
Health and the
Environment (CHE)

Description: The UCSF-CHE Summit will provide a comprehensive overview of the new science on environmental contaminants' impact on reproductive health and will explore: the translation of this research to clinical care, regulatory agency and research funding priorities, community and environmental justice concerns, and the formation of collaborative partnerships for effective action.

When: January 28 – 30, 2007

Where: Mission Bay Conference Center, UCSF,
San Francisco, CA

Organizers: Linda C. Guidice, MD, PhD, UCSF,
and Alison Carlson, CHE

Who should attend: Reproductive health clinicians and clinical researchers (in practice or in training); scientists; patient advocacy, women's health, community health, and environmental justice leaders; policy makers; funders.

For further information: Contact Mary Wade, Summit and UCSF Program in Reproductive Health and the Environment Manager, wadem@obgyn.ucsf.edu, tel: 415-476-2563

MANY, MANY THANKS TO OUR 2006 MEETING ABSTRACT REVIEWERS:

- Cynthia Berg
- R.J. Berry
- Michael S. Bloom
- Lisa M. Bodnar
- Amy M. Branum
- Suzan Carmichael
- Lisa Chasan-Taber
- M. Patricia deHart
- Emily Harville
- Wendy L. Hellerstedt
- Claudia Holzman
- Penelope Howards
- Thomas C. Hulsey
- Tonia L. Jones
- Mark A. Klebanoff
- Jihong Liu
- Pauline Mendola
- Jennifer D. Parker
- Kathleen Green Raleigh

AND FOR ADMINISTRATIVE & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

- Mary Ann Feeney
- Russell S. Kirby

Joint SPER/ASA Statistics in Epidemiology Section Workshop on Advanced Methods in Reproductive & Perinatal Epidemiology

The Workshop will be held on June 20, 2:00-5:00 PM before the official start of the Annual Meeting. Pre-registration for students is free and only \$25 for non-students. On-site registration is \$10 for students and \$50 for non-students. The program features discussion of cutting edge methodologic issues, followed by a substantive example of how these methods are applied:

- Using observational data to mimic clinical trials in pediatric populations.
Miguel Hernán, Ph.D.
- Use of marginal structural models to estimate the effectiveness of HAART among children infected with HIV-1. *Kunjil Patel (student)*
- Handling dependencies in pregnancy data.
Robert Platt, Ph.D.
- The inclusion of prior pregnancy experiences when evaluating the impact of modifiable risk factors on birth weight in gestational diabetes.
Jennifer Hutcheon (student)
- Developments in the analysis of biomarker data. *Enrique Schisterman, Ph.D.*
- Considerations in the analysis of biomarkers measured with detection limits.
Brian Whitcomb (student)

For more information, contact SPER Student Representative, Brian Whitcomb (whitcomb@mail.nih.gov) or Student Liaison to SER, Sara Simonsen (sellis@dfpm.utah.edu).

Future Dates & Sites

**SPER 2007: Boston, MA
June 18-19, 2007**

SPER 2008: Chicago, IL

SPER 2009: Baltimore, MD