



University of California  
San Francisco

## **Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW**

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at UCSF is one of the leading departments in the world in patient care, research, training, and mentoring of physicians and scientists.

We have an outstanding team of faculty and staff who are dedicated to:

- excellence and innovation in patient care and health education for women around the world
- a multidisciplinary approach to women's health, including holistic approaches to wellness
- the patient as a partner
- evidence-based medicine in women's health
- health policy research that impacts women and children
- cutting edge research in women's health and reproductive sciences
- translation of scientific discoveries into clinical practice
- innovations in women's health diagnostics and technologies
- training the next generation of doctors dedicated to women's health and wellness
- training the next generation of researchers dedicated to improving the health of all with a focus on women and children
- partnering with corporate partners in improving women's health
- celebrating our community partners

We live in an extraordinary era of unprecedented discovery and opportunity. Breakthroughs in technology and science enhance what and how we advise our patients and their families, how we communicate with our partners in the community, new directions and frontiers in research, how we teach our trainees, and how we treat our patients. Excellence and improvements in clinical care and patient safety are among our top priorities.

We take great pride in the role that we play, nationally and internationally, in transforming today's enormous promise into a better quality of life for all women. Please visit our website, <https://www.obgyn.medschool.ucsf.edu/>. You will meet our extraordinarily talented and dedicated faculty and staff, many of whom rank among the world's most renowned authorities in their fields and are regularly listed among The Best Doctors in America.

You will read about our exceptional educational, training, and mentoring programs that attract the best and the brightest, year after year. Also, you will learn about the wide range of women's health services offered through our clinical practices and our National Center of Excellence in Women's Health that integrate the latest in scientific research with comprehensive and compassionate care.

You will be introduced to our portfolio of research activities that span the spectrum from biological and clinical investigation to translating discoveries and public health policy research to improve human health, especially that of women and children. Our Department is one of the preeminent academic research institutions in women's health and reproduction, and we are dedicated to excellence every step of the way.

In pursuit of excellence, innovation, and leadership, our goal is to touch the lives of as many women as possible in ways that promote and protect their health and well-being. In multiple ways and with the help of our Department supporters and friends we are taking bold and practical steps toward achieving this goal. As Chair of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at UCSF, I am proud of our extraordinary team of faculty and staff making differences in women's health.

Linda C. Giudice, MD, PhD, MSc  
The Robert B. Jaffe, MD Endowed Professor and Chair

**For more information please visit <https://www.obgyn.medschool.ucsf.edu/>**

## **Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences**

### **OVERVIEW of CLINICAL DIVISIONS**

There are five clinical divisions within the Department:

1. **Division at San Francisco General Hospital.** The mission of the Division at San Francisco General Hospital is to improve the health of all women by eliminating financial, linguistic and cultural barriers to care and to provide high quality, evidenced-based, cost-effective health care to women in the context of training and research. Obstetrician-gynecologists and midwives at SFGH provide the full range of clinical care to a remarkably diverse population of women visiting the hospital, the New Generation Health Center (for teens), the Women's Options Center (for family planning and pregnancy termination), Mission Neighborhood Health Center (for prenatal and well-woman care) and Excelsior Clinic (for midwifery care). At SFGH's Women's Health Center, Division faculty provide specialized care in endocrinology, gynecologic cancer, high-risk pregnancy and continuity care for a broad spectrum of ethnically diverse women. Research by Division faculty explores multiple areas with major projects underway in family planning and reproductive tract infections.  
Director: [Rebecca Jackson, MD](#)
2. **Division of General Gynecology.** The Division of General Gynecology focuses on the gynecologic care of women throughout the life span. Its faculty include experts in pediatric and adolescent gynecology, family planning, dysplasia, uterine myomata, menopausal issues, urinary incontinence, pelvic organ prolapse and gynecologic surgery. Faculty research interests are focused on the epidemiology of urinary incontinence and abnormal cervical cytology, as well as the assessment of technologies such as the Pap smear, of patient preferences for treatment options in noncancerous uterine conditions and prenatal diagnosis, and of effective treatments for urinary incontinence. The Division is responsible for the core curriculum in gynecology for UCSF medical students based at the UCSF/Parnassus and UCSF/Mount Zion sites and for training in gynecology for UCSF residents rotating through those sites. Director: [Elena Gates, MD](#)
3. **Division of Gynecologic Oncology.** This division focuses on cancers of the female reproductive tract. Faculty are experts in the prevention and management of precancerous abnormalities (such as dysplasia and hyperplasia) and cancer involving the vulva, vagina and cervix, uterus, fallopian tube and ovary. The Division provides clinical training for students, residents and clinical fellows in these areas through its multidisciplinary practices in the UCSF Comprehensive Cancer Center and surgical and inpatient care of women at UCSF's Moffitt-Long and Mount Zion Hospitals. Faculty are engaged in research investigating the pathogenesis, detection and treatment of cervical, ovarian and endometrial cancer. Director: [John Chan, MD](#)
4. **Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine.** The Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine provides a full line of direct clinical and consultation services to patients and physicians in all aspects of maternal care and fetal disorders. The perinatologists in this division offer expert consultations for all maternal complications, including maternal heart disease, neurologic disorders, obesity, diabetes, immunologic disorders, gastrointestinal and genitourinary disorders, as well as for fetal conditions such as multiple gestation, Rh and other alloimmunization, fetal growth disorders, and fetal anomalies. Division faculty direct and manage the Birth Center (site for labor and delivery and the inpatient antepartum unit), which serves as a central place in the Department for teaching obstetrics to students, residents and clinical fellows. The Division also runs the Prenatal Diagnostic Center where patients receive comprehensive ultrasound assessment, genetic counseling, screening and diagnostic testing for conditions such as Cystic fibrosis, Down syndrome, and other disorders such as Canavan disease, fragile X syndrome, sickle cell anemia, Tay Sachs disease, and thalassemia. Faculty research involves biologic and clinical investigations addressing a broad range of topics across the disciplines of maternal-fetal medicine and genetics. Director: [Mari-Paule Thiet, MD](#)
5. **Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility.** This division provides expertise in infertility care and assisted reproduction, reproductive endocrinology and surgery, reproductive urology, andrology, genetics and psychology. Education activities in the Division emphasize a basic understanding of the menstrual cycle and the interaction between the hypothalamus, the pituitary and the ovary with the aim of providing trainees with a greater understanding and better management of many areas of reproductive endocrinology, including abnormal uterine bleeding, amenorrhea, contraception, hirsutism, infertility, menopause and osteoporosis. Division research encompasses a broad scope of basic, translational and clinical investigations. Director: [Marcelle Cedars, MD](#)

## **OVERVIEW of RESEARCH PROGRAMS**

The Department is home to a variety of research programs focusing on basic science, translational, health policy, and clinical research. In addition to research programs within our clinical divisions, there are four centers that are solely dedicated to research.

1. **Center for Reproductive Sciences.** The Center for Reproductive Sciences (CRS) is an Organized Research founded in 1977. The Center brings together a multidisciplinary group of basic researchers and physician scientists who have joined forces to coordinate basic and translational research in reproductive physiology and pathophysiology. Currently, 19 basic researchers and 6 physician scientists are affiliated with the Center. The faculty utilize state-of-the-art techniques to promote our knowledge of reproductive processes and to improve our understanding and, ultimately, the treatment of reproductive disorders. The mission of the Center is three fold: 1) promote high quality, cutting edge research in the field of reproductive sciences; 2) facilitate the transfer of concepts developed in the laboratory to clinical applications; and 3) provide an integrated and multidisciplinary training program for future leaders in the field of reproductive sciences. Director: Marco Conti, MD
2. **Women's Health Clinic Research Center.** The UCSF Women's Health Clinical Research Center (WHCRC) was established in 2001 and is a major component of the UCSF National Center of Excellence in Women's Health (CoE) at the UCSF Mount Zion Campus. The WHCRC provides a vibrant and growing focus for clinical research activities and significantly strengthens clinical and teaching programs in women's health through 3 key activities: 1) interdisciplinary research programs; 2) junior faculty training in clinical research, and 3) a fellowship in clinical research methods. The American woman's life expectancy has increased from 48 years in 1900 to more than 79 years in 2000. Historical failure to include women in research studies has led to inadequate attention to sex differences in health and disease. The researchers at the WHCRC are exploring the ways that appropriate screening, prevention, and treatment of disease differ by sex. One special focus of investigation is how aging affects women and their quality of life. Faculty members are actively researching breast health, dementia, HIV in women, osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, urinary incontinence, polycystic ovarian disease, and other topics. Director: Jeanette Brown, MD
3. **Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health.** The UCSF Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health was formed in 1999 to address the health, social, and economic consequences of sex and reproduction through research and training in contraception, family planning, and STIs. The Bixby Center strives to develop preventive solutions to the most pressing domestic and international reproductive health problems. The goals of the Bixby Center combine clinical studies, policy development and professional training. The goals advance new reproductive health technologies to provide additional choices in contraception, abortion, maternal health and sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention for diverse populations; understand factors contributing to adolescent pregnancy and STIs and develop innovative programs to improve adolescent reproductive health; develop and evaluate new technologies to decrease maternal mortality associated with pregnancy and childbirth in low-resource settings; conduct evaluations and policy analysis of innovative domestic and international programs to improve access to reproductive health care for both women and men; train practitioners, researchers and future leaders in the U.S. and internationally in provision of reproductive health care; and provide information, technical assistance and consultation to clinicians, researchers, policy makers and the public on reproductive health issues. The Bixby Center is also home to Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health (ANSIRH)—directed by Tracy Weitz, PhD, MPA—which works to ensure that reproductive health care and policy are grounded in evidence. Co-directors: Philip Darney, MD, MSc; Claire Brindis, DrPH, MPH
4. **Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment.** The Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment (PRHE) is dedicated to creating a healthier environment for human reproduction and development by advancing scientific inquiry, clinical care and health policies that prevent exposures to harmful chemicals in our environment. PRHE focuses on the intersection of science, medicine, policy and community engagement in each of our areas of activity: targeted research, expanding clinical practice, and advancing science-based policy solutions. Director: Tracey Woodruff, PhD, MPH

## **OVERVIEW of the UCSF National Center of Excellence In Women's Health**

The UCSF National Center of Excellence in Women's Health (CoE) has developed a new model to transform the traditional Academic Medical Center from a fragmented set of activities into a dynamic and multi-disciplinary health care system focused on the needs of all women. The model includes five components: 1) integrated clinical care to provide seamless health care services to women; 2) research focused on women's health issues to better

understand women's health needs; 3) professional education to better educate tomorrow's women's health care providers; 4) leadership activities to encourage women interested in this field; and 5) community outreach to expand services and the reach of the program beyond the walls of the university setting. Academically, the UCSF CoE is housed within the School of Medicine, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences. In the areas of clinical care, education, leadership and community, the Center has collaborative relationships with School of Medicine departments such as primary care, mental health, internal medicine, radiology and pediatrics, and with the Schools of Nursing, Pharmacy and Dentistry. In the area of research, the Center has collaborative relationships with several centers at UCSF including the Women's Health Clinical Research Center, Center for Reproductive Health Research and Policy, Medical Effectiveness Research Center for Diverse Populations, Center for Reproductive Sciences, and the Lesbian Health and Research Center. Director: Nancy Milliken, MD

**For more information please visit <https://www.obgyn.medschool.ucsf.edu/>**