

***Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and
Human Development (NICHD) Virtual Meeting:
Hot Topics and Emerging Trends in Gynecologic Pain Research**

March 2, 2022, 1-5 p.m. EST

Purpose and Scope

The goal of this meeting is to bring together both established and new investigators in the field of gynecologic pain research to spur interest, share ideas, and discuss emerging trends within gynecologic pain research and within the wider field of chronic pain research as it relates to gynecologic pain. This meeting covers the following five major topics related to gynecologic pain:

- 1) Hot topics and emerging trends in gynecologic pain research
- 2) Chronic pelvic pain
- 3) Dysmenorrhea
- 4) Vestibulodynia
- 5) Gynecologic pain management/treatment

Speakers will give an overarching view of emerging topics within their field of expertise and discuss progress, successes, challenges, gaps, and potential future directions in a discussion session.

Agenda

- 1-1:05 p.m. **Welcome and Opening Remarks: Introduction and Overview of the Gynecologic Health and Disease Branch (GHDB)**
[*Daniel S. Johnston, Ph.D.*](#)
Chief, Contraception Research Branch
Acting Chief, GHDB
NICHD
- 1:05-1:10 p.m. **Webinar Goals and Logistics, Technical Considerations, and Introduction of Speakers**
[*Helena Ahn, Ph.D.*](#)
Program Official, GHDB
NICHD

Session I

Moderator: Helena Ahn, Ph.D., Program Official, GHDB, NICHD

- 1:10-1:35 p.m. **Nociplastic Pain: A New Name for an Old Type of Pain**
[*Daniel Clauw, M.D.*](#)
Professor, Department of Anesthesiology
Director, Center for Chronic Pain and Fatigue Research
University of Michigan School of Medicine

1:35-2 p.m. **Understanding the Neurobiology of Pelvic Pain to Enhance Clinical Care**
[Sawsan As-Sanie, M.D., M.P.H.](#)
Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Director, Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery & Endometriosis Consultative Clinic
Co-Chief, Gynecology
University of Michigan

2-2:25 p.m. **Menstrual Pain and Chronic Pelvic Pain Risk - A Paradigm Downshift?**
[Frank Tu, M.D., M.P.H.](#)
Clinical Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology
Pritzker School of Medicine, University of Chicago
Director, Division of Gynecological Pain and Minimally Invasive Surgery
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
NorthShore University HealthSystem

2:25-2:50 p.m. **Vestibulodynia: Pain Beyond the Pelvis**
[Andrea Nackley, Ph.D.](#)
Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesiology
Director, Translational Pain Research Laboratory
Duke University

2:50-3:05 p.m. Break

Session II

Moderator: [Donna Mazloomdoost, M.D.](#), Medical Officer, GHDB, NICHD

3:05-3:10 p.m. Introduction of Speakers

3:10-3:35 p.m. **The Relationship Between Pelvic Floor Myofascial Pain and Pelvic Floor Symptoms - A Possible Manifestation of Musculoskeletal Pain?**
[Jerry Lowder, M.D., M.Sc.](#)
Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Director, Division of Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery
Washington University in St. Louis

3:35-4 p.m. **Assessment and Treatment of Painful Overactive Pelvic Floor Muscles Using High-Density Surface Electromyography**
Nicholas Dias, Ph.D.
Principal Research Scientist
HillMed Inc.

4-4:25 p.m. **Intrauterine Neuroimmune Modulation for the Management of Pelvic Pain**
[Susan Evans, M.D., Ph.D.](#)
Chief Executive Officer, Alyra Biotech
Chair, Pelvic Pain Foundation of Australia

Discussion

4:25-4:55 p.m.

Q&A/Discussion

Moderators: Helena Ahn, Ph.D., and [Candace Tingen, Ph.D.](#), Program Officials, GHDB, NICHD

4:55-5 p.m.

Closing Remarks