



ABORM Newsletter

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Issue: #4

Year of the Ox

Dear Dana,

One of the primary aims of ABORM is to promote advancement in education and research in integrative reproductive medicine. The members and affiliates of ABORM have been so busy with this endeavor that we have decided to launch an entire special edition of our newsletter dedicated just to education and research.

As the year of the Ox nears, people's hard work is resulting in considerable advances in the field of integrative reproductive medicine. In this special edition newsletter, we are pleased to report on rewarding educational opportunities, the publication of highly regarded research and exciting clinical trials.

You're Invited to Join CAM SIG and ASRM

Ray Rubio and ABORM representatives Caylie See, Paul Magarelli, Beth Schiffman, Cristina Wood and Jennifer Moss, as well as several practitioners waiting to sit for the upcoming ABORM exam, just kicked off the inaugural Complementary Alternative Medicine Special Interest Group (CAM SIG) at the 2008 American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) Conference.

In attendance were providers from many aspects of health care including gynecology, reproductive endocrinology, yoga, pharmaceuticals, conception product reps etc. who participated in the launch of the group and expressed interest, curiosity and suggestions for creating an ongoing CAM presence at ASRM.

CAM SIG is an opportunity to continue our endeavors to create growth and knowledge in integrative medicine as it relates to gynecology, men's and women's health, and reproductive medicine. We are excited to continue to promote evidence-based CAM in order to further the integration, collaboration and mutual education and respect between physicians and CAM providers.

We would like to invite any of you who are already ASRM members to join the new yahoo group: camsig@yahoo.com For those of you who are not yet ASRM members, we encourage you to join ASRM, at which point we would welcome your presence in this group as well. Feel free to

spread the word to other interested providers.

Hope to see you online on the CAMSIG yahoo group and at the next ASRM meeting!

ABORM NEWS

- **Elections for Board of Directors (Please Read)**

We are currently accepting submissions for the ABORM Board of Directors. To qualify you must be a current Fellow of the ABORM. There are 4 positions on the Board to be filled - each for a term of two (2) years. Please be aware that these are working positions and you will be expected to attend the annual meetings, hold committee positions, conduct work on behalf of the ABORM, and attend national conferences.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the ABORM Board of Directors please submit a short bio to Dana Price at danaprice@iluminahealing.com. The deadline for submission is **January 15th, 2009**. This is a great opportunity to make a difference in our profession and in the ABORM.

Elections will take place by Internet voting. Once we receive all of the candidates names and bio's we will compile them and send them to all ABORM fellows to vote on. All Internet votes must be received by **February 15, 2009** to be counted. Once all votes are counted we will announce the new Board members via e-mail. The electees will officially start their tenure at the ABORM annual meeting on April 22nd, 2009, which will take place immediately following the ABORM examination. This annual Board Meeting is mandatory, so please do not submit your name for consideration as a Director unless you can definitely attend this meeting. Plan on arriving on Tuesday, April 21st, in order to help administer the ABORM Examination which begins with Registration at 7:30 AM on Wednesday morning, April 22, for a 9:00 Examination start time.

Fellow Profile

Diane K. Cridennda L.Ac., D.O.M. (New Mexico), FABORM

Twenty years as a radiologic technician prepared Diane Cridennda for her career bridging East and West Medicine. She is a founding member of the Board of Directors for the ABORM. As is true for many Integrative and Complementary Health care providers, a personal tragedy helped expose Diane to what 4,000 years of Chinese Medicine could do to help those "difficult cases" or "resistant" patients who fall between the cracks of Western medicine; only to be healed with Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM). This threw her into a career change.

Diane trained for her career in TCM at the International Institute of Chinese Medicine in Santa Fe, NM. She also spent a summer in Beijing China. There she experienced first hand the root of this ancient holistic art of healing learning. Through a "gut feeling" she visited Colorado Springs and decided this was to be the place for her to practice. 13 years and many thousands of patients later, she has established East Winds Acupuncture as the source for personal, professional, and compassionate care. What has been truly remarkable is that since 1999, she has worked with Reproductive Medicine & Fertility Centers, headed by Paul C Magarelli, MD, Ph.D., to create the largest clinical

private practice research center in the integration of Acupuncture and IVF. She has published numerous studies investigating the impact of TCM (Acupuncture) on Poor Responder, Good Responder, as well as all IVF patients. She has created the worlds first Acupuncture Consortium that now spans three states and three countries which she developed for TCM practitioners to work directly with IVF centers... this is the progenitor of the ABORM itself.

The consortium practitioners had to sign contracts with the IVF programs to provide western disciplined Acupuncture protocols in order to "Prove" what Diane already knew, that "Acupuncture Works!" After 9 years and numerous publications she and Dr. Magarelli's research on acupuncture and IVF is published as a Chapter in a western textbook; "Infertility and Assisted Reproduction", Cambridge University Press, 2008. Their chapter is called "The Revolution of Assisted Reproductive Technologies: How Traditional Chinese Medicine Impacted Reproductive Outcomes in the Treatment of Infertile Couples,"

The world has taken notice and the use of acupuncture in an IVF center in the U.S. is now accepted and for many it is a "standard of care". The other accomplishment that really crowns her work is that Fertility & Sterility, the premier journal of RE&I, has accepted for publication her study on the mechanism of action that acupuncture provides to improve IVF outcomes. This is truly a world's first and it will help all ABORM members have an "entre" into RE&I practices.

What many people don't know is that Diane is an avid athlete, her favorite is triathlons, and she has so many medals that she keeps them in boxes in her basement. Diane tells her patients: "I train to keep from overworking, and I work to keep from over training". In there lies the balance.

The other facts about Diane that are not known is that her web site at www.EastWindsAcupuncture.com is "the" source for acupuncturists around the world for her protocols and research findings. She has shared every protocol, every bit of research (without financial fees) with her fellow TCM colleagues. She has spent many tens of thousands of dollars of her own money to promote the research that she has published. She has been an invited speaker around the world and yet answers all her email personally and is the first to volunteer to help other practitioners' create relationships with their RE&I colleagues. She helped create the first "integrative medicine" workshop at the Pacific Coast Reproductive Societies annual meeting in 2008 (this is the premier RE&I meeting in the western part of the U.S), and is the second oldest society at 57 years) and through her diligence she was able to attract speakers such as Jane Lyttleton from Australia, Jani White from England, Lorne Brown from Canada and many other TCM practitioners where they interacted with fellow MD's, RN's, Ph.D.'s in the field of RE&I and where she has networked to develop and create more inroads to the integration of TCM with IVF programs.

For 2009, Diane is will be participating with Ray Rubio, D.A.O.M., L. AC. (FABORM) and Dr. Paul Magarelli in putting together a research trial to investigate the role TCM Herbs may have in influencing the ovarian reserve index (ORI). Stay tuned... it will be an amazing journey.

Upcoming Events

Pacific Coast Reproductive Society
April 22-26th

The Pacific Coast Reproductive Society will once again have ABORM

members organizing a key workshop at their annual meeting (www.pcrsonline.org). The workshop will investigate the role of Meta-Analyses on the interpretation of Acupuncture research. The key speakers are ABORM members: Diane K. Cridennda who will facilitate a discussion with Brandon Horn, Caylie See and Ray Rubio. The PCRS and ABORM Exam will be held sequentially, so those members taking the ABORM certification exam can stay to participate in what has been called the most collegial, social and educational RE&I meeting in the U.S.

ABORM Exam & Review Course
April 22nd

The exam will be held on April 22, 2009 from 9:00AM-2:00PM

The second ABORM examination is scheduled in conjunction with the Pacific Coast Society of Reproductive Medicine's annual conference at the Renaissance Esmeralda Resort and Spa, Indian Wells, California. We encourage you to call and make your reservations as early as possible in order to get the ABORM reserved rate.

ABORM Review Course
February 13th, 14th, and 15th

Yo San University of Oriental Medicine (www.yosan.edu) will be providing an Integrative Reproductive Medicine Course on the weekend of February 13th, 14th, and 15th, 2009, in Los Angeles, California. This course will cover an in-depth review of each of the 16 Categories of Competency tested in the Board Certification Examination. The course will be taught by Reproductive Endocrinologists from UCLA Medical School, and by Dr. Daoshing Ni, Ph.D., L. Ac. (FABORM), and Dr. Denise Wiesner, L.Ac. (FABORM). Last year's Integrative Reproductive Medicine course at Yo San, was one of the most highly rated courses offered that year, and those who took the course and subsequently took the ABORM exam, said that the course helped them tremendously.

This course is open to anyone, not only those planning on sitting for the ABORM Exam, and it is expected to fill up quickly. It will be qualified for CEU's.

DISCLOSURE: Although this course does cover the ABORM requirements in depth, the ABORM does not officially endorse any ABORM exam prep course due to conflict of interest. The ABORM Fellows that are instructing this course do not have access to this year's ABORM examination questions, but they did both sit for last year's exam, and so therefore are familiar with it.

To register for this course contact Lawrence Lau, Academic Dean at Yo San University: (310) 557-3000 (ext# 14).

More Upcoming Events
(visit www.aborm.org for complete details)

Berkeley Center for Reproductive Wellness, East Meets West in
Reproductive Medicine
January 10-11

Brandon Horn & Wendy Yu's Clinical Case Reviews for Infertility
Feb. 7

Treating PCOS, Sharon Weizenbaum
Feb. 21-22

Southwest Symposium,
March 6-9

Clinical Problems and Solutions in Oriental Reproductive Medicine, Dr
Daoshing Ni
May 16-17

ASRM 65th Annual Meeting
October 17-21, 2009
For More Information: ASRM, Tel: 205-978-5000, Email:
asm@asm.org

Pro-D Seminars, Distance education
Seminars, workshops and courses that foster the individual's
commitment to life-long learning, optimal development, and maintenance
of knowledge and skills; focusing on women's healthcare and infertility.
ABORM-approved online and distance courses available.

Doctorate Program in Reproductive Medicine

Beginning in the Fall of 2009, Yo San University of Oriental Medicine will be offering the first Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Program (DAOM) in the world with the specialty focused squarely on Reproductive Medicine. Although there are a few DAOM programs now that offer a women's health specialty with one or two weekends devoted to Reproductive Medicine/Infertility, Yo San's will be the first to offer exclusively in-depth specialty training in both western and TCM Infertility.

Faculty for this amazing program will include both Doctoral-Level TCM Infertility specialists, and REI's. Doctoral Candidates in this two-year program will be involved with research related to Infertility with Acupuncture and Chinese Herbs from the outset, and they will be involved in clinical rounds in the offices of REI's where they will have the opportunity to see firsthand the in's and out's of the ART setting.

This program will be set up to accommodate out-of-state practitioners who have busy practices and families by concentrating the coursework on 4-day weekends, one time per month.

This program will prepare its' graduates to be the Leaders in the field of Oriental Reproductive Medicine, and it will give them the tools and relationships necessary for lifelong learning and teaching in this area of specialty.

For more information contact the Yo San DAOM Program Coordinator Teri Powers, DAOM, L. Ac. at - tpowers@yosan.edu. You may also call her at Yo San University:
(310) 577-3000 ext: 15.

Sincerely,

The ABORM