

Winter 2021



Resources and Innovations Emerge From the Pandemic

2020 was a challenging year for many reasons. COVID-19 wreaked havoc on inpatient visits, elective surgery, screening for cancer, hospital visitation and of course the significant morbidity and mortality of the virus itself.

As Washington was the first state in the country to feel the impact of COVID-19, UW Medicine was instrumental in developing and implementing widespread testing, introducing protocols to safely address prenatal, intrapartum and postpartum care of COVID-positive mothers and their newborns. We've also compiled guidance on the vaccine and pregnant women, which you can access [on our website](#). The virus has revolutionized our ability to provide telehealth throughout our region, and our access, especially for rural patients and working women, has been one of the positive innovations that has emerged.

While I know we were all happy to see 2020 come to an end, I am extremely proud to be part of UW Medicine and part of the team that has continued to provide medical leadership, data analytics and extensive resources for Washington and the rest of the nation. We're also so grateful for the ongoing partnership with our faculty throughout our region. I'm hoping 2021 finds an end to this tragic pandemic.

Barbara A. Goff, MD
Professor and Chair, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology
Surgeon-in-Chief, University of Washington Medical Center

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New Leadership for Reproductive Care Center at UW Medicine

We are pleased to introduce Dr. Ginny Ryan as the new Director of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (REI) at UW Medical Center. Dr. Ryan brings experience in reproductive technologies, onco-fertility (especially in adolescents), ethics consultation, transgender care and reproductive care for veterans and other underserved populations.

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Dr. Kemi Doll Embarks on \$6 Million Study on Endometrial Cancer Interventions

Kemi Doll, MD and co-founder of Endometrial Cancer Action Network for African-Americans, receives a \$6 million grant to study how an intervention to decrease Black women's social isolation might improve their rates of treatment completion and their overall outcomes.

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RESEARCH AND NEWS

- Dr. Alisa Kachikis selected for prestigious grant to study the safety of maternal vaccines and the ability to protect the fetus through maternal immunization. This research has the potential to dramatically change how we protect newborns from viral related illness. [See More](#)
- Dr. Christopher N. Herndon and colleagues published results showing the disparities in fertility knowledge among women from low and high resource settings presenting for fertility care in two metropolitan centers. [See More](#)
- Dr. Katherine E. Debiec and Dr. Anne-Marie E. Amies Oelschlager examine the origin, presentation, evaluation and treatment of Uterovaginal Anomalies in a review in Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology. [See More](#)
- Dr. Kemi Doll and colleagues tackled the subject of Underrepresented-Minority Faculty in Medical Subspecialties in the New England Journal of Medicine sharing from first-hand experience. [Read More](#)
- While it is known that poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase inhibitors (PARPi) have anti-cancer activity in patients that harbor germline ovarian cancer, Dr. Elizabeth M. Swisher and colleagues have shown that PARPi is active in the maintenance setting for all platinum-sensitive, high-grade recurrent ovarian cancer patients regardless of germline mutations. [See More](#)
- Dr. Anna C. Kirby et al published results of a study, Practice Patterns for Women with Overactive Bladder Syndrome: Time Between Medications and Third-Line Treatments in the journal of Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery. [Read More](#)

Expert Resources, Ready to Help

Connect with UW Medicine experts — or connect your patients with us — for consultations, diagnosis, treatment and education. We look forward to partnering with you.

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