

Editorial

The International Academy of Perinatal Medicine is dedicated to the advancement of the care of maternal, neonatal, and fetal patients throughout the world. This issue commemorates the annual meeting held in Tirana, Albania on May 27, 2016 by featuring presentations by members of the Academy.

The issue begins with a look into the future of perinatal medicine by Erich Saling, the father of our field. Asim Kurjak present his landmark work on the cognitive function of the fetal brain. Frank Chervenak then gives a historical perspective on the beginnings of informed consent a century ago and its implications for the avoidance of miscommunication today. Ritsuko Pooh presents her ground-breaking work on neurosonology. There are several state-of-the-art presentations on the obstetrical ultrasound by Badreldeen Ahmed, Aliyu Dayyabu, Apostolos Athanasiadis, Ana Bianchi, Eberhard Merz, and Vincenzo D'Addario. Joachim Dudenhausen analyzes the important topic of stillbirth while Alexander Makatsariya presents his world recognized work on thrombophilia and Aris Antsaklis provides an overview of maternal and perinatal mortality. Renato Sa and an international group of leaders discuss the evolving topic of fetoscopic repair of spina bifida. Cihat Sen critically reviews the controversial area of cell-free deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) testing. Mirosław Wielgos contributes on the evolving topic of optimal management of congenital diaphragmatic hernia. Milan Stanojevic and Dharmapuri Vidyasagar present timely clinical issues in neonatology. Gianni Monni contributed on clinical and social issues of noninvasive prenatal testing (NIPT) and Apostolos Papageorgiou contributed on cesarean section.

As can be seen from this panoply of topics, our International Academy of Perinatal Medicine is successful in its efforts to help maternal, neonatal, and fetal patients throughout the world. We are grateful to all contributors for advancing this important mission.

Asim Kurjak
Frank Chervenak