SEMINAR REPORT

MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH

June 5-11, 2022

A Global Educational Initiative by the American Austrian Foundation
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SALZBURG COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SEMINAR IN MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH

June 5-11, 2022

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<th>Details</th>
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<td>31 fellows from 24 different countries</td>
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<td>6 faculty members from the United States of America and Austria</td>
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<td>22 lectures given by faculty</td>
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<td>30 interesting case presentations by fellows</td>
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<td>6 excellent case presentations by fellows</td>
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Group Photo of Faculty and Fellows
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<th>Sunday, June 5 – Saturday, June 11, 2022</th>
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<td>Introductions</td>
<td>Prenatal Screening</td>
<td>Where Do Ideas Come From?</td>
<td>School Age Outcomes of Extremely Preterm Infants</td>
<td>A Skeptic’s View of Neonatal Medicine</td>
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<td>Pre-Seminar Test</td>
<td>Ronald Wapner, MD</td>
<td>George R. Saade, MD</td>
<td>Susan R. Hintz, MD, MS, Epi.</td>
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<td>10:00</td>
<td>Richard A. Polin, MD</td>
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<td>Workshop Fellows’ Case Presentations</td>
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<td>Friedrich Reiterer, MD</td>
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FACULTY BOOKLET

MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH SEMINAR IN SALZBURG

June 5-11, 2022

A Global Educational Initiative by the American Austrian Foundation
Wolfgang Aulitzky, MD

Director, Open Medical Institute
American Austrian Foundation
Associate Dean and Gerhard Andlinger Professor for International Medicine & Distance Learning
Adjunct Professor of Clinical Urology
Adjunct Professor of Clinical Reproductive Medicine
Weill Medical College of Cornell University
Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics
Perelman School of Medicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Associate Professor of Urology
Medical University of Innsbruck, Austria

Wolfgang Aulitzky, MD is the Medical Director of the American Austrian Foundation. He is Associate Dean for International Medicine and Distance Learning, Adjunct Prof. of Clinical Urology and Adjunct Prof. of Clinical Reproductive Medicine at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University/New York Presbyterian Hospital. In 2016, he was appointed Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics in the Associated Faculty of the Perelman School of Medicine at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. He is also Associate Prof. of Urology at the Medical University of Innsbruck and Visiting Professor at the Medical University of Vienna. Amongst others he is a member of the American, German and Austrian Societies of Urology and was awarded the Zuckerkandlpreis of the Austrian Society of Urology in 1989. In 1995 he received the Silver Medal, in 2007 the Golden Medal for Merits to the Republic of Austria and in 2014 the cross of honor of the Land Salzburg. As Director of the Medical Program of the American Austrian Foundation he has initiated the Open Medical Institute, a scientific and educational collaboration of Weill Cornell and the NewYork Presbyterian Hospital, the Children Hospital of Philadelphia, Duke University, Columbia University, the Cleveland Clinic and leading hospitals in Austria. Dr. Aulitzky earned his medical degree at the University of Innsbruck in 1977, was a research associate at the University of Uppsala, Sweden and the Rockefeller University, New York. He received his training as an urologist at the University of Innsbruck and the General Hospital of Salzburg. He is the author of more than 140 publications on Urology, Andrology and Health Care issues and is co-author of books on basic and clinical urology/andrology.
Richard A. Polin, MD
(Course Director)

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Richard A. Polin, MD is the William T. Speck Professor of Pediatrics at Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons and is the immediate past Director of the Division of Neonatology at Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital of New York-Presbyterian. From July 1977 until January 1998, Dr. Polin was a faculty member in the Division of Neonatology at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1998, Dr. Polin returned to Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital of NY-Presbyterian as the Director of Neonatology. In the spring of 2006 Dr. Polin received the National Neonatal Education Award from the AAP’s Section on Perinatal Pediatrics and in 2017 he was inducted into the “Legends Hall of Fame”. Dr. Polin is the 2021 recipient of the Apgar Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics. Dr. Polin has published over 200 original papers, 20 books (including Fetal and Neonatal Physiology, Workbook in Practical Neonatology, Pediatric Secrets and Fetal and Neonatal Secrets,) and more than 200 abstracts. Dr. Polin is the Chair of the NICHD Neonatal Research Network executive steering committee, and he is the past chair of the Sub-board of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine.
Friedrich Reiterer, MD
(Co-Course Director)

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Friedrich Reiterer, MD is a Professor of Pediatrics at the Children's Hospital of the Medical University of Graz, working as a neonatologist at the Clinical Division of Neonatology. After earning an MD degree from the University of Graz in 1979, he completed a general and pediatric internship in 1987. In 1989, he completed a postgraduate education at the university hospital for children, Queen Fabiola, in Brussels, Belgium, for research activity in the field of sudden infant death syndrome. From December 1990 to May 1992, Dr. Reiterer completed a research fellowship at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, USA, working on pulmonary function testing in neonates and multichannel polysomnographic recording for evaluation of infant apnea. He continued his research activity in Graz focusing on the management of neonates with respiratory morbidity. Dr. Reiterer has published in numerous medical journals and has been invited to speak at national, and international conferences. Beside his research activity he is regularly and actively involved in medical training programs for students, nurses and physicians and since 2005 he is faculty member and co-course director at the Maternal Infant Health seminars of the AAF in Salzburg. Dr. Reiterer is a member of the German-Austrian society for neonatal and pediatric intensive care. He is married and has two children.
Kathleen G. Brennan, MD (she/her/hers) is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Neonatology at Columbia University. Active in medical education at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, Dr. Brennan teaches in the medical school through the continuum of preclinical and clinical coursework with a focus on how physicians learn to communicate. She serves as the Associate Director for the Pediatric Clerkship, as Core Faculty in the Pediatrics Residency Program, as the liaison for resident education in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), and as the Associate Program Director for the Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship Program. Dr. Brennan works closely with these families and their infants, both in the NICU/Neonatal Cardiac Intensive Care Unit and following their discharge in the Neonatal Neurodevelopmental Follow-up Clinic. In her clinical, educational, and scholarly work, Dr. Brennan focusses on the communication between doctors and families – what are the best practices for communication and what are the best practices for teaching those communication skills. Together with her colleagues at CUMC, she is committed to give every newborn baby the very best chance at a full and healthy life through innovative medicine and compassionate family-centered care.
Susan R. Hintz, MD, MS Epi. is the Robert L. Hess Family Endowed Professor, Senior Associate Chief of Neonatal and Developmental Medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine, and Director of the Fetal & Pregnancy Health Program at Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford. Dr. Hintz is a neonatologist and perinatal epidemiologist, whose investigative work focuses on understanding and improving morbidities and neurodevelopmental outcomes for extremely premature and high-risk infants, including the use of neuroimaging as a biomarker. Her work as the lead principal investigator for neurodevelopmental outcomes with the Eunice Kennedy Shriver NICHD Neonatal Research Network encompasses follow up of high-risk infants at toddler age through school age. Dr. Hintz is principal investigator and medical director for the statewide California Perinatal Quality Care Collaborative (CPQCC) CCS High-Risk Infant Follow-Up Quality Care Initiative, integrating a continuum of care framework for quality improvement from NICU to discharge transition through early childhood. Dr. Hintz also led the creation of the Fetal and Pregnancy Health Program at Stanford, and has been Director of the program from its inception. The program has established a multidisciplinary, innovative, and highly integrated approach to comprehensive care for complex fetal patients, expectant mothers, and families.
George R. Saade, MD is a Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Professor of Cell Biology, Director of the Perinatal Research Division, Chief of Obstetrics and Maternal-Fetal Medicine and the Jennie Sealy Smith Distinguished Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Texas Medical Branch. In early 2014, Dr. Saade was appointed to the National Advisory Child Health and Human Development Council of the National Institutes of Health. He is an elected member of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society and Alpha Omega Alpha. He is past president of the Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine and Chair of its Health Policy Committee. He is the editor-in-chief of the American Journal of Perinatology. Dr. Saade has served on a number of national and international advisory committees and scientific review panels, including NIH, CDC, March of Dimes, ACOG, Wellbeing/Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, and the Health Research Council of New Zealand. He is currently the principal investigator on two (2) NIH-funded clinical research networks and the co-investigator on three (3) others. Dr. Saade is certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and is an examiner. His clinical area of expertise revolves around stillbirth and preterm birth. He has authored more than 300 peer-reviewed publications, and is the editor of the “Critical Care Obstetrics” and “Maternal Medicine” textbooks. He has been voted as Best Doctor and selected to Super Doctors several years in a row.
**Ronald Wapner, MD**

Professor of OB/GYN  
Vice Chair of Research  
Director of Reproductive Genetics  
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Email: rw2191@columbia.edu

**Ronald Wapner, MD** is the Director of Reproductive Genetics for the Columbia University Irving Medical Center. Dr. Wapner is an internationally known physician and researcher specializing in reproductive genetics. He pioneered the development of chorionic villus sampling (CVS) and multi-fetal reduction. He has authored or co-authored over 400 publications and he has been an active investigator in the area of Maternal-Fetal Medicine. He is either a principal or co-investigator for a number of NICHD sponsored multi-center studies. He serves as the center PI for the National Standards for Fetal Growth study and the NuMoM2B study at Columbia University in the Maternal Fetal Medicine Units Network and recently led a multicenter study evaluating the accuracy, efficacy, and clinical advantages of prenatal diagnosis using microarray analysis. He has recently been granted five-year NIH funding to investigate the costs and benefits of prenatal genetic diagnosis by genomic sequencing. The Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine has honored Dr. Wapner with both a Lifetime Achievement Award (2015) and The Dru Carlson Memorial Award for Best Research in Ultrasound and Genetics (2017). He has had a significant role in the development of multidisciplinary research studies and clinical research centers throughout his career.
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<tr>
<td>Katarína Janičková, MD</td>
<td>Detská Fakultná Nemocnica Kosice</td>
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<td>Željana Jotanović Pahović, MD</td>
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<td>Anna Khmil Doswald, MD</td>
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Ethiopia

Sunday, June 5, 2022

I arrived in Salzburg, Austria at noon, excited for my first trip to Europe and the interesting seminar ahead but exhausted from my long travel. As I was not familiar with Salzburg, I had difficulty finding the bus station at the airport, but people I met on the road were very nice and helpful. On my way to Schloss Arenberg, I was amazed by the beautiful architecture and scenery of the city; it distracted me from anxiously staring at the screen on the bus so I wouldn't miss my stop. After checking in, I chose to be spontaneous rather than rest and decided to take a walk in the beautiful city of Salzburg. I walked along the river, saw the Mozart statue, enjoyed the scenery, and had coffee at a nice small coffee shop. Later that day at the welcome reception, we were introduced to our esteemed faculty from the United States and Austria. We also got acquainted to the other fellows, majority of whom are women from different parts of the world. It was a lovely first day.

Monday, June 6, 2022

On the first day of the seminar, we woke up to beautiful weather outside and enjoyed a nice cup of coffee before heading to the grand hall. Dr. Polin began the seminar with introductions and opened the floor for all the fellows to introduce themselves and their backgrounds. Our class is diverse in origin and background. Pediatricians, Neonatologists, Obstetrician/Gynecologists, and a Nephrologist from all over the world. After the pre-seminar test, Dr. Polin gave us an enlightening lecture on prevention of BPD. After a coffee break where
we were able to connect and interact with other fellows, the lectures continued with Dr. Saade, discussing fetal growth restriction. Mechanism of inheritance was then presented by Dr. Wapner. During his lecture, I couldn’t help but think about the many syndromic children in Ethiopia and how their care would be improved if genetic testing was readily available. After our lunch break, Dr. Hintz gave a very informative lecture on two-year developmental outcome of extremely preterm infants, using multiple literatures. Dr. Reiterer wrapped up the first day with different interesting neonatal cases.

**Tuesday, June 7, 2022**

Dr. Wapner started the second day with an interesting talk on prenatal screening. As physicians, we regularly have difficult conversations with patients. Dr. Brennan addressed this topic in her presentation and taught us ways of handling these talks. Dr. Hintz then shared with us the tremendous work, a fetal center, her and colleagues are working on in the United States. The presentation on her team’s work demonstrated the positive effects of having a multidisciplinary team addressing and managing complex fetal diagnosis. Dr. Polin then gave a very practical lecture on basic principles of approach on CPAP, phototherapy, and hypoglycemia that help improve the outcome of neonates admitted to the NICU. In the afternoon, I was part of the group of fellows that presented their cases. I was a bit anxious to present in front of an esteemed panel of faculty, but I got over my nerves and the presentation went well. Fellows presented very diverse and interesting cases. After the seminar day concluded, the fellows gathered in the lobby and had a lovely evening networking with one another. We conversed about our different expertise and practices in our respective countries.

**Wednesday, June 8, 2022**

Today’s lectures were a mix of medical topics and life skills that we can use in our daily practice. Dr. Saade kick started the day with a very crucial topic; how to come up with ideas and implement them with perfect examples. In his lecture on changing the indication for diagnostic test, Dr. Polin reiterated the importance of sequencing analysis in diagnosing fetal abnormalities noted on screening exams. Dr. Brennan’s lecture on how to improve communication with students was a very insightful presentation, and I plan on implementing what I have learned when I conduct lectures and bedsides back home. The final seminar of the day was presented by Dr. Hintz, on the trends of the high-risk infantile clinics in California. She discussed in detail of her experience and the positive changes it has brought in the outcome of the patients. As today provided the only free afternoon, all the fellows were looking forward to it. A few of us went to the beautiful town of Hallstatt. We learned more about each other while we sipped coffee by the lake, enjoying the magical view. Hallstatt is a wallpaper picture in real life, a breath-taking place that is a must visit.

**Thursday, June 9, 2022**

We stared the morning with Dr. Polin giving a brief lecture on neonatal sepsis and how you approach these cases. He later discussed necrotizing enterocolitis, which was a very informative topic, as we see neonates with NEC in our NICU frequently. We also had a presentation on the long-term outcomes of extremely premature infants by Dr. Hintz. I was fascinated by the findings she discussed, as I always wonder about the outcome of my few extremely premature patients. After having a cup of tea, due to the rainy weather, we continued with a lecture on growth patterns and implications By D. Brennan. Dr. Saade then concluded
the days lectures by illustrating why pregnancy is the window to future health with detailed examples. Fellows’ case presentations continued in the afternoon with more interesting cases from different parts of the world. We had a beautiful evening as we enjoyed a music concert held in Schloss Arenberg’s Grand Hall, followed by a mixer in the lobby where the fellows had the chance to interact with the faculty. We took pictures and had a few laughs, talking about the seminars and our experiences.

Friday, June 10, 2022

The last day of the seminar focused on the topics of prevention of preterm birth, a view of neonatal medicine, and antenatal consultation for extreme prematurity. It is hard to believe it’s already the last day of the seminar week; time really does fly by when you are having a great time. Over the past week, I had the pleasure of attending insightful seminars from exceptional faculty. The seminar was organized and presented in a way to keep everyone engaged and interested. As I leave the seminar, I’m thankful for the opportunity to attend this wonderful program, where I learned so much about my field that I hope to implement back home. I have made incredible connections and friendships that I will surely maintain. Thank you all for an incredible week.
Sunday, June 5, 2022

I arrived in Salzburg late on Saturday after a long journey from Mexico. Sunday was my first full day in the city, so that I decided to explore Salzburg. Days before I had planned all the places I wanted to visit. After a short 10-minute walk to downtown, I bought the Salzburg card and visited all the museums, the Salzburg cathedral, and the Mirabell palace and gardens. At 7pm, we all met in the lobby, where Dr. Richard Polin introduced the seminar week. The day ended with the welcome dinner, where we started to get to know all the fellows from all around the world.

Monday, June 6, 2022

The day started with a brief presentation from the course director, Dr. Richard Polin, followed by the pre-seminar test. Afterwards, the lectures began. The first talk was given by Dr. Polin and was about one of my favorite topics in neonatology and the most common complication of a premature baby. In an interactive way, Dr. Polin covered a range of strategies to prevent bronchopulmonary dysplasia, which I want to do in my center. Then, we were able to interact with the faculty members during the coffee break, which gave us the opportunity to ask questions and share ideas. It was time to learn about fetal growth restriction with Dr. Saade, which was so good. Dr. Wapner gave us an update of mechanisms of inheritance. After our lunch break, we had a very important topic in my practice, which was two-year developmental
outcomes for extremely preterm infants by Dr. Hintz. The day ended with many interesting neonatal cases by Dr. Reiterer. Then it was time for a quick evening walk in the city; I climbed all the way to Hohensalzburg Fortress, where I had a beautiful panoramic view of Salzburg. I took many pictures. The day ended with a great dinner at Schloss Arenberg.

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

The third day started with two interesting topics by Dr. Wapner and Dr. Brennan. The last topic about strategies for sharing difficult news was especially valuable for me because this is really difficult to do in a real medical environment. That is one of the reasons why these seminars are so important, because we can use our new knowledge back in our countries and transmit it to many people. After some lectures about prenatal care, the afternoon was dedicated to our case presentations. In an open and friendly environment, we were able to present and discuss both interesting and challenging cases. In fact, we did learn a lot from these shared experiences, not only regarding medical decisions, but also management of our environment and resource limitations.

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

Wednesday started with a session about ideas in medicine by Dr. Saade, which was a really fascinating topic and new for the majority of the fellows. I will use this in my practice to improve health services. During the morning, Dr. Polin also presented three neonatal cases and he gave us six NICU survival tips. The morning ended with a lecture on strategies to talk with residents and opportunities for follow through for preterm infants. I really enjoyed all the tips that Dr. Brennan gave us in her talk because I educate residents, so its valuable to have strategies to improve education in medicine. After lunch, we had the afternoon free. We decided to visit Hallstatt because the weather was really good and that village is considered the most beautiful in Austria, with the oldest salt mine in the world. The rest of the day was spent in the city center, where we tasted coffee and cakes at Café Tomaselli.

Thursday, June 9, 2022

The day began with a session on one of the most interesting topics in neonates by Dr. Polin, which focused on how we can prevent enterocolitis. After our coffee break, Dr. Brennan gave a lecture about how to improve growth in preterm infants, which provided a lot of new info for me. The afternoon was dedicated to fellows’ case presentations and discussion, which was once again a valuable exchange of experiences. After, it was time to enjoy the evening in a restaurant in the center of Salzburg, with a delicious dinner and drinks alongside my new friends. The day ended with a fantastic chamber music concert at Schloss Arenberg, complete with piano and violin performances.

Friday, June 10, 2022

I woke up in the morning with mixed feelings, excited to go home soon and share what I learned, but also sad to say goodbye to all my new friends and to leave Salzburg. The last day was dedicated to neonatal and prenatal topics. After seven days of this seminar, I would say it was a dream for me. I had continuous intercultural exchange of medical knowledge with fellows, and I received new knowledge from the faculty members. The OMI seminars are
making a difference in global healthcare by allowing doctors from all over the world to join and learn together. Thank you so much!!