



## ABORM Newsletter

Issue: #2

Spring/2008

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Dear Dana,

Welcome to the second issue of the ABORM newsletter. The ABORM has been very busy furthering the field of Oriental Reproductive Medicine. Over the past couple of months we have planned and revised the next ABORM examination, started a Special Interest Group (SIG) within the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, and updated the bylaws to expand voting for the Board of Directors by all Fellows.

The ABORM has also been increasing the awareness of specialization in Oriental Reproductive medicine within the allopathic and Chinese medical communities. As I write this I am sitting at the ABORM booth at the AAAOM conference in which we have had much interest. We also plan to have booths at the following conferences: Pacific College of Oriental Medicine, the American Fertility Association, Resolve SW Regional meeting, the American Society for Reproductive Medicine meeting, the Pacific Coast Reproductive Society annual meeting. If you see us at one of these events or anywhere else please stop by and say hello. Have a great autumn and we hope to see you soon.

Dana Price L.Ac., Dipl.OM, FABORM

### Quick Links

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### Presidents Message



As I write this, I have just returned from attending the AAAOM Conference in Chicago. It was a terrific meeting for all in attendance, and the ABORM was well represented both in the Vendor's Hall where we had a table offering information about the ABORM; and, in workshops offered by our ABORM Fellows and Advisors.

On Saturday, four of our ABORM Fellows - Lorne Brown, B.Sc., CA, R.Ac. Dr. TCM, (FABORM), Caylie See, M.S., L. Ac. (FABORM), Brandon Horn, Ph.D., JD, L. Ac. (FABORM), and Paul C. Magarelli, M.D., Ph.D., FACOG - offered a panel discussion on the current state of research and integration related to TCM and ART. The workshop was very well attended, and each of the speakers presented terrific information related to the topic.

On Sunday, another ABORM Fellow - Sadhna Singh, M.B..B.S., MSOM, Dipl. OM, (FABORM) - Offered a fantastic workshop, entitled "The Basics of Western and TCM Diagnosis and Treatment for Female Infertility". Sadhna's workshop was full of clinical pearls and offered a solid foundation for any practitioners who wanted to focus on Infertility treatments in their Practice.

If you are interested in hearing recordings of the above presentations, you can go to either to [www.conferencerecordings.com](http://www.conferencerecordings.com) (for audio recordings), or [www.prodseminars.com](http://www.prodseminars.com) (for video recordings).

Speaking of distance learning - If you are looking for more information and training regarding TCM and Reproductive Disorders or OBGYN, make sure you visit [www.prodseminars.com](http://www.prodseminars.com). They have the most extensive collection of material available for distance learning in this area of specialty: Jane Lyttleton, Randine Lewis, Bob Flaws, Heather Bruce, Debra Betts, Kiiko Matsumoto, and more. The list grows daily. So, if you can't afford the time away from your clinic, bring the speakers to you.

We are quickly approaching the next ABORM Examination for Certification - ([http://www.aborm.org/certification/exam\\_details.html](http://www.aborm.org/certification/exam_details.html)) - and we are expecting a good turnout. We are also very excited about the ABORM Exam being offered in conjunction with the Pacific Coast Reproductive Society Annual Meeting ([www.pcrsonline.org](http://www.pcrsonline.org)).

The PCRS is one of the oldest Societies for Reproductive Medicine/Infertility in the US, and their Annual Meeting brings together Fertility Specialists and Researchers and Complementary Medicine Practitioners from around the world. Because the PCRS meeting is held near Palm Springs, California every year, it is always a great opportunity for bringing the family along to enjoy the sun and fun with pools, golf, spa treatments and more.

The ABORM will also be holding a Reception on Wednesday evening after the exam to meet and greet all of the examinees, and other ABORM Fellows who are in attendance. We do hope that many of you current Fellows will make plans to come out and help with the exam and stay for the PCRS Conference. It's a terrific opportunity to network with RE's from around the United States, Canada and the rest of the world. Come on out and re-connect with your other ABORM Fellows and get re-inspired!

On a final note: The ABORM bylaws have been changed by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors to make all future elections for seats on the ABORM Board of Directors subject to a vote of entire ABORM membership. Because the ABORM is only as strong as it's members, we hope that many of you will consider putting your names forward to take one of the four (4) seats on the Board of Directors that will become vacant as of April, 2009.

Until then, good health, peace and prosperity to you and your family and patients, in these very trying times.

Warmly,

Ray Rubio, D.A.O.M. L. Ac. (FABORM)

## **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](mailto:danaprice@iluminahealing.com). The deadline for submission is December 15th, 2008. 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 January 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.

- The ABORM has approved many exciting [courses](#) given by leaders in the profession to fulfill the recertification requirements which is 20 hours of ABORM approved CEU's every two years.
  - ABORM Board members Paul Magarelli and Diane Cridennda have published a chapter in the new book ["Infertility and Assisted Reproduction"; by Botros Rizk](#). This is the first time an allopathic reproductive medicine book has included Chinese medicine. Congratulations!

## **Fellow Profile**

Lee Hullender, MS, LAc, FABORM

After a ten-year stint in the Air Force that led to station assignments in Germany, Saudi Arabia, and South Korea, Lee Hullender was ready for a career change. In 1998, two years after her introduction to acupuncture while stationed in Korea, she began her training with a deep interest in women's reproductive health.

Since finishing her Master's degree at Bastyr University in 2001, Lee has

developed her reproductive medicine specialty through mentorship, study, and practice. In 2005, Lee started an independent clinic, Abundant Spring LLC. She now splits her time between the Northwest Center for Reproductive Sciences, a biomedical fertility center and her clinic. Her practice coordinates and provides team coverage to couples seeking acupuncture treatment on the day of their embryo transfer seven days a week. Lee has also begun teaching at the Jade Institute with Cindy Micleu, LAc. They recently completed a 42-hour comprehensive course on the treatment of infertility that included current research, male factor, environmental issues, and nutrition.

Research is of keen interest to Lee, especially that which accurately reflects clinical practice and is considered ecologically valid. She is currently involved with a research project co-authoring the full manuscript of the Craig et al abstract (Acupuncture lowers pregnancy rates when performed before and after embryo transfer, 2007). A controversial and unfortunate outcome, Lee hopes this research study will help strengthen the argument for more ecologically valid research design in the future. While IVF and standardized acupuncture studies (Paulus et al, 2002) (Dieterle et al, 2006) (Westergaard et al, 2006) have been very beneficial to the field, they were not accurate reflections of clinical practice and applied few standardized acupuncture treatments.

As a result, Lee has been tracking patient reproductive outcomes since 2005. The data includes patients who were receiving traditional Chinese medicine treatment while trying to conceive naturally or undergoing biomedical treatment such as IVF. As her database grew, she began to notice trends. These trends were the impetus to beginning the doctoral program in Portland, Ore., in 2007. Lee's capstone will organize this data and retrospectively analyze approximately 350 in vitro fertilization (IVF) patient outcomes collected over three years and report her findings. Preliminary analysis looks promising.

Craig, L. B., Criniti, A. R., Hansen, K. R., Marshall, L. A., & Soules, M. R. (2007). Acupuncture lowers pregnancy rates when performed before and after embryo transfer. *Fertility and Sterility*, 88 (9), S40.

Dieterle, S., Ying, G., Hartzmann, W., & Neuer, A. (2006). Effect of acupuncture on the outcome of in vitro fertilization and intracytoplasmic sperm injection: a randomized prospective, controlled clinical study. *Fertility and Sterility*, 85 (5), 1347-1351.

Paulus, W., Zhang, M., Stehler, E., El-Danasouri, I., & Sterzik, K. (2002). Influence of acupuncture on the pregnancy rate in patients who undergo assisted reproduction therapy. *Fertility and Sterility*, 77 (4), 721-724.

Westergaard, L. G., Mao, Q., Kroglund, M., Sandrini, S., Lenz, S., & Greinsted, J. (2006). Acupuncture on the day of embryo transfer significantly improves the reproductive outcome in infertile women: a prospective, randomized trial. *Fertility & Sterility*, 85 (5), 1341-1346.

## Upcoming Events

- [ABORM Exam, April 22, 2009, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM](#)

*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](#).

- [ASRM Annual Meeting](#), Nov.8th-Nov. 12th, San Francisco

*The ABORM started the Complementary and Alternative pre-Special Interest Group which will meet for the first time on Wednesday November 12, 2008 from 7:15am - 7:45am. After three consecutive years of meeting the group will become an official Special Interest Group (SIG) of the ASRM which will further or collaboration with the allopathic community.*

- [Berkeley Center for Reproductive Wellness](#), East Meets West in Reproductive Medicine, January 10-11, 2009, Los Angeles, CA.

*Learn how to diagnose and treat male and female infertility and chronic miscarriage with acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine.*

- [Pacific Coast Reproductive Society Annual Meeting & Conference](#), April 22-29,2009.

*The PCRS conference is a family friendly and fun way to get continuing education in allopathic and Chinese medicine.*

- [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.*

Treating PCOS by Sharon Weizenbaum, Feb. 21-22, 2009.

Clinical Problems and Solutions in Oriental Reproductive Medicine, Dr Daoshing Ni. May 16-17,2009.

- [Southwest Symposium](#), March 6-9, 2009.

*Come and see ABORM Board Members Lorne Brown, Paul Magarelli and Diane Cridennda lecture on infertility and research.*

**Sincerely,**

**The ABORM**