Preview of NEO 2012 - The Conference for Neonatology, February 23rd-26th, 2012 at Walt Disney World® Resorts, Orlando, Florida

Alan R. Spitzer, MD

It is our pleasure to highlight the Sixth Annual NEO - The Conference for Neonatology in this special edition of Neonatology Today. NEO started six years ago as the new edition of the former Management of the Tiny Baby Conference, which ran for 28 years before this transition. NEO has now become one of the major annual meetings in all of newborn medicine, highlighted by the Legends of Neonatology presentations. The line-up for this year’s meeting is one of the best to date, with a wide range of topics and world-renowned speakers who will address many of the most critical and controversial issues that are affecting the clinical practice of newborn medicine in the rapidly changing environment of health care. An additional exciting development this year for our international guests will be the simultaneous translation of the meeting into Spanish.

As usual, the meeting starts with a Pre-Conference Day dedicated to Quality Improvement in Neonatology. The Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Program of the American Board of Pediatrics now consists of four parts, with Part Four being devoted to the demonstration of meaningful participation in quality improvement. So that participants can better appreciate and utilize the methodology and tools of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI), Wednesday, February 22nd, will be devoted to a full day Pre-Conference Session on this timely issue. Led by Dan Ellsbury, MD, and Robert Ursprung, MD, two national leaders in neonatal CQI, this pre-conference session is ideally suited to preparing the clinician for understanding and developing sound quality improvement initiatives in the NICU. Dr. Ellsbury and Dr. Alan Spitzer edited the March 2010 issue of Clinics in Perinatology that was devoted to CQI in neonatal medicine. As a follow-up to that publication, Drs. Spitzer and Ellsbury have recently completed the editing of the forthcoming March 2012 issue of Clinics in Perinatology that will be dedicated to evidence-based neonatal pharmacotherapy.

The main conference starts on Thursday, February 23rd, 2012, and runs through Sunday February 26th. Major themes of the meeting include: Management of Neonatal Lung Disease, The Baby with Endocrine Problems, The Neonate with Cardiac Disease, Transfusion and Fluid Therapy in Newborn Medicine, Fetal Diagnosis and Management in the Modern Era, and Neonatal Brain Injury. Each of these sessions has many of the foremost experts in the country addressing the topics for which they have become renowned.

One of the premier meetings in neonatal medicine
I am a preemie

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ADA=American Dietetic Association
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HMF=human milk fortifier
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One of the other unique features of the NEO Conference is the annual “Legends of Neonatology” awards. Starting in 2007 at the first NEO Conference, we have made an effort to acknowledge and show our appreciation to some of the most legendary figures in the history of Neonatology. This year’s honorees will be William Oh, MD, who pioneered our understanding of neonatal metabolism, fluid therapy in the newborn, neonatal nutrition, renal function, bilirubin metabolism, and neonatal neurodevelopmental outcome, among many others. His immense contributions to the field of neonatology are astonishing and his illustrious career serves as a model for all neonatal practitioners to emulate. Dr. Oh will also honor us with a talk about the history of neonatal fluid therapy on the Friday afternoon of the NEO Conference. The other honoree this year is Abraham Rudolph, MD, about whom it has been said that he is responsible for much of what we know about congenital heart disease. His classic studies on digitalis in infants and children, his explorations of many of the common forms of congenital heart disease, his pioneering work in cardiac catheterization in newborns, and his groundbreaking evaluation of the fetal and transitional circulations are but a part of his contributions to neonatal care. The work of these two legendary giants has dramatically changed the care of the neonate and is one of the reasons why outcomes for critically ill infants have improved so dramatically in the last few decades. Dr. Spitzer, Course Director for NEO, will review the history leading up to the contributions of these “Legends” and show how their work has become the core upon which much of modern newborn medicine is founded. This night is always a very special event and a highlight of the meeting that attendees should not miss!

This year’s event at the incredible Walt Disney World® Dolphin Hotel in Orlando will be one of the foremost programs of the year in Neonatology. The NEO Conference is run alongside another great meeting in Newborn Medicine—Specialty Review 2.0—for individuals looking for a broader review of the field of neonatology. We very much hope that you can join us for one of these meetings and promise you an educational experience that you will not soon forget.

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~on behalf of the NEO Planning Committee~
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Wednesday Session
February 22, 2012
CQI Pre-Conference

Pre-Conference Day Topics
- The Case for Quality Improvement
- Overview of Maintenance Certification
- Using Quality Measures and Common Databases
- The Model for Improvement

QI Workshops
- Retinopathy of Prematurity
- Catheter-Associated Infections
- Necrotizing Enterocolitis
- Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia
- Admission Hypothermia
- Medication Overuse

CQI RECEPTION FOR PRE-CONFERENCE ATTENDEES
Moderated by Dan Ellsbury, MD and Robert Ursprung, MD, MMS

“The line-up for this year’s meeting is one of the best to date, with a wide range of topics and world-renowned speakers who will address many of the most critical and controversial issues that are affecting the clinical practice of Newborn Medicine in the rapidly changing environment of health care.”
Patient Care
Quality Improvement
Research and Education

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Fetal Diagnosis and Management in the Modern Era

Prenatal Ultrasound—Why, How When?
- Jennifer McNulty, MD

Fetal Monitoring and Antenatal Testing
- Thomas Garite, MD

Fetal Diagnosis and Management of Congenital Heart Disease
- Wayne Tworetzky, MD

Medical and Surgical Intervention in the Fetus
- Timothy Crombelholme, MD

Saturday, February 25, 2012
Seminars in Neonatology

Neonatal Brain Injury

White Matter Injury in the Pre-Term Infant
- Praveen Ballabh, MD

The Child With a Myelomeningocele
- Lee Sutton, MD

Hypoxic-Ischemic Injury and Cooling
- Michael Weiss, MD

A CQI Approach to Reducing Birth Injury
- Dale Reisner, MD

FINAL COMMENTS

Sunday, February 26, 2012
Seminars in Neonatology

Save the Date!

NEO 2013
February 21st - 24th, 2013
The Hilton Bonnet Creek
Orlando, FL

SR2.0 2013
February 21st - 25th, 2013
The Hilton Bonnet Creek
Orlando, FL
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WILLIAM OH, MD

William Oh is truly one of the founders of the field of Newborn Medicine and has taught us much of what we know of metabolism, minerals, and fluids and electrolytes in the newborn infant. Originally trained in the Philippines, where he received his MD degree, he came to the United States in 1958, doing a pediatric residency at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago. Subsequently he became Chief Resident and a research fellow in neonatology at that institution. Between 1964 and 1966, he initiated a series of research projects at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm that resulted in one of the first series of papers to examine neonatal blood pressure, neonatal blood volume, neonatal hemodynamics, and neonatal renal function. He became Director of Neonatology at Michael Reese in 1966, subsequently joining the faculty as Chief of Neonatology at Harbor General Hospital in California from 1969-1974. In 1975, he left California and migrated to the East Coast, becoming Pediatrician-in-Chief of Women and Infants Hospital of Rhode Island and Professor of Pediatrics and Obstetrics at Brown University, where he later was appointed Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics in 1989. During this highly productive part of his career, Dr. Oh published virtually non-stop in a number of areas of Newborn Medicine. He continued his efforts at understanding neonatal blood pressure, the role of acid-base balance upon abnormal fetal heart rate patterns and neonatal well-being, the effects of insensible water loss upon neonatal metabolism, nutritional well-being in neonates, neonatal glucose metabolism, intraterine growth retardation, neonatal renal function, bilirubin toxicity, and many others. Increasingly, he has become interested in long-term neurodevelopmental outcome following NICU hospitalization and has been a leading figure in the NICHD Neonatal Network. He has won numerous major awards and honors, including the Apgar Award of the AAP. Dr. Oh has long been focused on one of the key areas of modern medicine, namely improving outcomes for neonates, and has contributed as much as any living neonatologist in that regard. Dr. William Oh remains active on the faculty of Brown University to this day and is truly a Legend of Neonatology.

ABRAHAM M. RUDOLPH, MD

It has been said of Dr. Abraham Rudolph that he is responsible for much of what we know about congenital heart disease. Born in South Africa, he went to medical school at the University of Witwatersrand, winning most of the prizes awarded in his graduating class, where he graduated summa cum laude. He did his initial training at Transvaal Memorial Hospital for Children, but subsequently spent a year in the United Kingdom. After briefly returning to South Africa, he decided to move to the United States and studied with the great cardiologist, Alexander Nadas, at Boston Children’s Hospital. There he initiated a number of classical studies in pediatric cardiology involving digitalis in infants and children, pulmonary stenosis, atrial septal defect, aortic stenosis, PDA, VSD, Tetralogy of Fallot, and transposition of the great vessels. Much of the knowledge gained from this research led to the publication of his famous textbook entitled Congenital Diseases of the Heart: Clinical-Physiological Considerations, which first appeared in 1974 and then was revised in 2001 and 2009. Dr. Rudolph was also one of the first individuals to recognize and study pulmonary hypertension and the effects of a variety of agents on the pulmonary circulation. He originated many of the techniques of pediatric cardiac catheterization during the 1950’s, and was the first person to catheterize the premature infant, demonstrating the PDA in babies with Hyaline Membrane Disease. In the 1960’s, Dr. Rudolph moved to Einstein College of Medicine, where with Michael Heymann, he began a series of groundbreaking studies on pulmonary circulation and the fetal circulation, utilizing injected microspheres for the first time to measure flow to various organs in animal preparations. In 1966, Dr. Rudolph migrated West to the University of California at San Francisco and the Cardiovascular Research Institute, redefining the use of microspheres to measure changes in fetal circulatory development. He also initiated his classic studies in the ductus arteriosus, and together with Dr. Henry Edmunds, was responsible for the first successful ductal ligation in a pre-term infant. He is widely renowned for his extensive experimental studies of developmental and postnatal physiology and pathophysiology. In addition, he has been a member of the National Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, President of the American Pediatric Society, Chairman of the Section on Cardiology of the AAP, and editor of the classic general pediatric textbook, Rudolph’s Pediatrics. His contributions to cardiac care of the infant are extraordinary, and he is a true Legend of Neonatology.
“Major themes of the meeting include: Management of Neonatal Lung Disease, The Baby with Endocrine Problems, The Neonate with Cardiac Disease, Transfusion and Fluid Therapy in Newborn Medicine, Fetal Diagnosis and Management in the Modern Era, and Neonatal Brain Injury.”

“Overall, an excellent conference. I look forward to returning in the future.”

“Overall very thoughtful, informative and educative conference.”

“Conference maintained the high standards which we have expected and appreciated.”

“I keep telling people: this is the one of best conferences I’ve ever been to because it’s concise, relevant, up-to-date and extremely practical.”

“It was a well-run and information-filled conference. Thank you!”

“This year was a good balance in clinical and basic science/research topics.”

“It was terrific!”

“I completely enjoyed it.”

“The Gala... was a wonderful night of food, entertainment and such a lovely way to honor these marvelous people. Thank you so much for having this a part of Neo Conference.”

“I enjoy this conference a lot and have attended for 3 consecutive years. Always informative!”

“Great conference. I enjoyed the Gala.”

“Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication for making this conference such a success.”

“Thanks. Hall of Fame spectacular. Very nice work by Dr. Alan Spitzer”

“Wonderful conference. Great speakers.”

“Looking forward to the next conference, hoping for more information that can be applied in the clinical setting.”
# NEO Registration Information

Visit NEO Website to Register, Learn about Room Rates, Transportation and Theme Park Costs

[www.neoconference.com](http://www.neoconference.com)

## NEO Registration Fees

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registrant Type</th>
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<th>NEO and CQI</th>
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<td>Physician</td>
<td>$975</td>
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## CQI Pre-Conference Registration Fees

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### What is Included in Your NEO Conference Registration?

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<td>Breakfast</td>
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<td>CQI Reception</td>
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<td>Legends of Neonatology Gala Banquet**</td>
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* Tuition includes access to all courses, course syllabus and free CME/CNE credit processing for courses completed.
** Legends Gala includes reception, dinner and award ceremony. Legends Gala is complimentary for Full Conference registrants only (not Single Day). Guests of registrants and Single Day participants may purchase a ticket for $80.

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