



John Paul II Institute
for Marriage and Family, Melbourne



NATIONAL FERTILITY CONFERENCE

Final Programme



A collaboration between the National Fertility Awareness Agencies:

- *Australian Council of Natural Family Planning, Inc.*
- *FertilityCare Centres of Australasia, Inc.*
- *Ovulation Method Research and Reference Centre, Ltd.*

Hosted by the John Paul II Institute and the Life, Marriage and Family Office with the support of Archbishop Hart, President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Bishop Gerard Hanna, chair of the former Australian Catholic Bishops Committee for Natural Fertility Education. Sponsored by the Australian Catholic University, Matercare Australia, St Francis Xavier Cabrini Hospital and the International Institute for Restorative Reproductive Medicine



MATERCARE AUSTRALIA

INTERNATIONAL
INSTITUTE for
RESTORATIVE
REPRODUCTIVE
MEDICINE



Friday 19th September, 2014
Public Forum and Opening of Conference
Meeting the Needs of Infertile Couples

To be held at the Lecture Theatre, Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East
Melbourne, Catering in Cathedral Room

Co-Chairs: Dr Mary Walsh and Prof Nicholas Tonti-Filippini

7pm Welcome and Opening of Conference

The Most Rev Peter Elliott MA (Melb), MA (Oxon), STD (JPPI Rome)

7.10 The Grief and Loss of Infertility: A Pastoral Response

The Most Reverend Gerard Hanna DD

Bishop of Wagga

7.40 Fertility Awareness in Medical Practice: A Holistic Approach

Dr Raffaella Pingitore, is a Swiss Italian gynaecologist and obstetrician who consults at the Moncucco Clinic at Lugano in Switzerland where she is also engaged in the Delivery Room of the Public Hospital and in the Operating Room of the Moncucco Clinic. She is well known internationally for her work in infertility and has published in endocrinology and is an Associate Researcher at the Reproductive Health Research Institute.

8.10 Panel Discussion

Including: Bishop Gerard Hanna, Dr Raffaella Pingitore, Dr Luke McLindon, Dr Phil Boyle, Dr Michael Panetta, and Ms Agnes-Mary Hanna.

9.10 Close and Light Supper

Saturday 20th September, 2014

Main Session

Day One

Medical Seminar on Restorative Approaches

To be held at the Thomas Carr Centre, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

[Note that the talks are limited to recapping the main points for discussion on the understanding that speakers have sent a longer paper for pre-circulation to participants who have undertaken a Predisposing Activity on the papers.]

*Session One
Practice Issues*

Chairs: Dr Lucia Murnane and Dr Luke McLindon

9am Alternatives to IVF - What They Are & How To Present Them

Dr Phil Boyle MICGP MRCGP, GP Fertility Specialist, Galway Clinic, Doughiska, Co. Galway

9.50 The State of Play - Fertility Awareness in Australian Medical Practice

5 minute reports

New South Wales - Dr Michael Panetta

Queensland - Dr Terry Kent

South Australia - Dr Brendan Miller

Tasmania - Dr Brigid McKenna

Victoria - Dr Mary Walsh

Western Australia - Dr Amanda Lamont

10.20 General Discussion

10.30am Morning Tea

*Session Two
A Restorative Approach to Women's Health and Infertility*

Co-Chairs: Dr Veronica O'Connell and Dr Adrian Thomas

11am Discussion of the Treatment of Endocrine Causes of Sub-fertility

Dr Raffaella Pingitore, is a Swiss Italian gynaecologist and obstetrician

11.35 Discussion of Surgery for Sub-fertility

Dr Brendan Miller MBBS BSc FRACGP Fellow in Gynaecological Surgery, Adelaide

12.10 General Discussion

1pm Lunch

*Session Three
Fertility Research*

Co-Chairs: Dr Cathy Lennon and Dr Michael Panetta

2.00 Discussion of Pregnancy Outcomes of Restorative Fertility Treatment

Dr Luke McLindon, MBBS, FRACGP, O&G Registrar, Mater Hospital Brisbane

2.20 Discussion of the Brown Ovarian Hormone Monitor – Into the Future

Associate Professor Leonard F. Blackwell, BSc (NZ), MSc (Hons)(NZ), PhD (Cantuar), Massey University, New Zealand and Dr Adrian Thomas MB BS, FRANZCOG, FRCOG, Senior Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Mercy Hospital for Women.

2.40 Discussion of the IRRM Surveillance Trial on Restorative Procreative Medicine

Dr Phil Boyle MICGP MRCGP, GP, Fertility Specialist, Galway Clinic, Doughiska, Co. Galway

3pm General Discussion

3.30 Afternoon Tea

*Session Four
Future Developments and Brainstorming for the 2015 Meeting*

Co-Chairs: Dr Brigid McKenna and Dr Brendan Miller

4pm General Discussion on Future Developments

Panel members: Dr Amanda Lamont, Dr Michael Panetta, Dr Mary Walsh, Dr Adrian Thomas, Dr Luke McLindon

Saturday Evening, 20th September 2014
National Conference Mass and Dinner

6pm Vigil Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral

Principal Celebrant

The Most Reverend Gerard Hanna DD, Bishop of Wagga

Homilist

*The Most Reverend Peter Elliott STD, Auxiliary Bishop
Director, John Paul II Institute for Marriage and Family, Melbourne*

Conference Dinner, 7:30pm
The Ballroom, Rydges Hotel
186 Exhibition Street, Melbourne

Saturday 20th September, 2014

**Minor Session
Day One**

Education in Christian Sexuality

To be held at the Thomas Carr Centre, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

- 9.00** **Goals and Methods for Education in Sexuality: Respecting the Child's Age of Development**
Dr Gerard O'Shea
- 10.00** **Discussion**
- 10.30** **Morning Tea**
- 11.00** **What is the Theology of the Body?**
Owen Vyner
- 11.30** **The Challenge of Pornography**
Anna Krohn
- 12.00** **Discussion**
- 1.00** **Lunch**
- 2.00** **Same Sex Orientation, Vocation and Sexuality**
Dr Conor Sweeney
- 2.30** **Body, Mind, Heart – Educating Human Beings**
Dr Gerard O'Shea
- 3.00** **Discussion**
- 3.30** **Afternoon Tea**
- 4.00** **What Works in Sex Education and the Effect of Context:
A Conversation**
Panelists: John Shay, Helen McConnell, Dr Gerard O'Shea, and Lynn Anderson
- 5.00** **Close**

Sunday 21st September 2014

Day Two

Fertility Awareness Agency Conferences

Three Concurrent Programs, each organised by

- ***Australian Council of Natural Family Planning, Inc.;***
- ***Fertility Care Australia Inc.;***
- ***Ovulation Method Research and Reference Centre Inc. Ltd.***

Also informal concurrent session for doctors on Ethical Issues 10.30am until 4pm.

To be held at the Thomas Carr Centre, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

9am	Opening session
10.30	Morning Tea
11.00	Second Session
1pm	Lunch
2pm	Third Session
3.30	Afternoon Tea
4pm	Fourth Session
5.30	Close

Sunday 21st September 2014

Day Two

*Seminar on Ethics
of
Restorative Reproductive Medicine*

Concurrent with Agency Programs

To be held at the Thomas Carr Centre, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

- **Case summaries to be included in the folders of participants.**
- **Brief case presentation by clinicians**
- **Some ethicists will be asked to participate**

10.30 Morning Tea

Co-Chairs: Dr Elvis Šeman and Dr Lucia Murnane

11am Pre-conception and Conception

- a) **Seminal fluid collection** for Assessment of Male Infertility and for Permissible Fertility Treatment – this is normally done by masturbation, but may also be collected from the cervix after sexual intimacy (Huhner’s test), by using a condom-like device (a MALE Factor Pak during sexual intimacy or by using a perforated Male Factor Pak to preserve openness to new life).
- b) **GIFT** (intrafallopian tube transfer of husband’s sperm at same time as wife’s egg so that fertilization takes place in the wife’s body).
- c) **IUI** (intrauterine insemination of husband’s sperm to increase sperm counts by using semen previously gathered and preserved, or to bypass immune rejection by the wife’s body of the husband’s sperm).
- d) **Mirena** for fertility preservation in atypical endometrial hyperplasia. Mirena is a hormone releasing intra-uterine device which would render a normal fertile woman infertile by affecting nidation, but where there is disease of the endometrium causing infertility, it may in fact serve to preserve her fertility.
- e) **Morally Licit Use of OCP** in circumstances in which the purposes are not contraceptive, but contraception may be a side effect.

- f) **Problematic Requests** for OCP, Post Coital Intervention (emergency contraception), Abortion and Practice Management Issues in group practices in which other doctors prescribe or refer for these practices.
- g) **Providing fertility information and assistance to Lesbian couples, for AI and for the unmarried**

1pm Lunch

Co-Chairs: Dr Eamonn Mathieson and Dr Catherine Black

2pm Pregnancy issues

- h) **Management of Pregnancies Involving Grave Risk to the Mother**
- i) **Management of Ectopic Pregnancy**
- j) **Prenatal Testing and Genetic Counselling** – doctors are frequently asked for prenatal testing which may include screening tests the followed by more invasive tests to determine diagnosis. 90% of women diagnoses with a life limiting condition in their pregnancy will opt for abortion.
- k) **Perinatal Palliative Care and Support** – newly established area to provide support for women and their families when a child is diagnosed with a life limiting condition during pregnancy.
- l) **Embryo Adoption of spare IVF embryos**
- m) **Surrogacy** – doctors and hospitals may be asked to assist with arrangements before or after birth for the birth mother to become pregnant, relinquish at birth and have the commissioning couple (who may same sex or even single) recognised as parents – possibly falsifying birth certificates. There may be issues with hormonal treatments to produce lactation in commissioning mother and issues to do with management of birth mother's pregnancy such as prenatal testing. Often commissioning couples travel overseas to India, Thailand or Greece to pay for a birth mother.
- n) **Adoption Local and Intercountry** – Australian State and Federal Governments have policies that discourage adoption so that there are fewer than 300 per year in Australia. Many travel overseas, such as to USA to arrange adoption from other countries, usually orphaned children.