

WOMEN'S INTEGRATED PELVIC HEALTH PROGRAM AND DIVISION OF FEMALE PELVIC MEDICINE & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY AT NORTHWESTERN MEDICINE



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Through Northwestern's Women's Integrated Pelvic Health Program, we are providing compassionate, multidisciplinary, and expert care to women with pelvic disorders that include urinary and fecal incontinence, prolapse of the pelvic organs, overactive bladder, complex fistulas, and other pelvic-related conditions. Our world-class program brings together experts from urogynecology, urology, colorectal surgery, and physical therapy to offer each woman a comprehensive, innovative, and individualized treatment plan. We are the only program in Chicago to offer integrated services from all of these specialists in a single, convenient location.

Our program is a national model for treatment, research, and education in female pelvic floor disorders. Notably, women can benefit from the latest treatments and participate in clinical research trials for urinary incontinence, bowel control problems, and pelvic organ prolapse. We are striving to improve the quality of life for women with pelvic floor disorders and to provide an exceptional standard of care. Many women are taught to accept these disorders and their symptoms as a normal part of aging, or to suffer in silence because they are too embarrassed to speak with their doctors. At Northwestern, we are seeking to change this.

As an academic medical center, we believe that research and education are key to propelling new knowledge and improving healthcare for women. We are working to translate promising research advances into more effective treatment approaches and prevention strategies for our patients. Our faculty have extensive experience as leaders in surgical trials and patient-reported outcomes research, and have published their work in well-respected medical journals such as the *New England Journal of Medicine* and the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.



This form of research and publication of new information are essential to advancing patient treatment options. In addition to research, we place a high priority on providing educational opportunities in an interactive and collaborative environment.

While research and clinical care can happen outside of academic institutions, comprehensive education cannot. The faculty of the Division of Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery provide education and training at all levels, including medical students, residents, and fellows. We expect our fellowship graduates to advance healthcare for women as surgeon-scientists who not only provide outstanding clinical and surgical care but also serve as inspiring mentors and educators.

Dr. Margaret (Maggie) Mueller is one of our outstanding fellows. She is in her third year and is well on her way to achieving excellence as a surgeon-scientist. She already received grant funding from both the American Urogynecologic Society and Friends of Prentice for two of her current projects. Dr. Mueller's research interests center on studying patient outcomes after reconstructive pelvic surgery. Her senior research thesis project is a randomized, controlled trial that evaluates the effect of postoperative activity restrictions on satisfaction and anatomic outcomes.

WOMEN'S INTEGRATED PELVIC HEALTH PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

Kimberly Kenton, MD, MS, FACOG, FACS

Dr. Kenton is board-certified in OB/GYN and female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery. She is a professor of OB/GYN and urology and serves as chief

of female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. She is also director of the Women's Integrated Pelvic Health Program.



Dr. Kenton has earned national and international recognition for treatment of women with complex pelvic floor disorders and minimally invasive surgical techniques with laparoscopy and robotics. Her clinical interests include treatment of urinary incontinence, pelvic organ prolapse, fecal incontinence, complex urinary and rectal fistulas, mesh complications, and congenital anomalies. She earned a master of science degree in clinical research design and statistical analysis at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and has been the primary investigator on several National Institutes of Health-funded studies that have led to advances in surgical treatment and outcomes for women with urinary incontinence and pelvic organ prolapse.

Since 2007, Dr. Kenton has served as a female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery fellowship director, mentoring more than 11 fellows from the fields of both gynecology and urology who have gone on to establish successful careers in academic medicine. Notably, Dr. Kenton is a nationally recognized leader in surgical education and in developing innovative surgical techniques and research educational curricula. She serves on several national committees devoted to fellow and resident training.



Lisa Labin Johnson, MD, FACOG

Dr. Johnson is board-certified in OB/GYN and female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery, and serves as assistant professor of OB/GYN at the Feinberg School. She joined Northwestern University in 2007.

Dr. Johnson is an avid surgical educator with expertise in complex vaginal reconstructive surgery and robotic pelvic reconstructive surgery. She was one of the first Integrated Pelvic Health Program team members to obtain privileges in robotics for female pelvic reconstructive surgery. Dr. Johnson has a passion for sharing her expertise and experience in surgical education to promote international women's health, participating in numerous surgical mission trips to underserved countries around the world. Her clinical interests include pelvic organ prolapse, robotic surgery, complex vaginal surgery, genital tract fistulas, and urinary and fecal incontinence.



Christina Lewicky-Gaupp, MD, FACOG

Dr. Lewicky-Gaupp is board-certified in OB/GYN and female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery and serves as both assistant professor and associate residency program director of OB/GYN at Feinberg. She received the Resident Excellent Teaching Award for three consecutive years and was awarded Most Outstanding Educator in Obstetrics & Gynecology in 2011. Her research and clinical interests include advancing an understanding of the prevention and treatment of childbirth-related pelvic floor injuries and the relationship between anatomic defects on pelvic floor imaging and pelvic symptoms. Her recent work demonstrated high complications after obstetric anal sphincter lacerations and led to improved clinical algorithms at Northwestern Medicine Prentice Women's Hospital. In addition, she is medical director of a new, interdisciplinary clinic for women with peripartum pelvic floor disorders called PEAPOD (Peripartum Evaluation and Assessment of the Pelvic floor around the time Of Delivery).



Anne Marie Boller, MD, MA, FACS

Dr. Boller is a board-certified surgeon, an assistant professor in surgery-surgical oncology, and a member of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University. Dr. Boller focuses on diagnosing and treating functional and anatomic pelvic disorders including rectal prolapse, sphincter disruptions, rectoceles, sphincter repair, and the application of innovative technologies to cure fecal incontinence. She also treats colon and rectal malignancies and inflammatory bowel disease. Dr. Boller's research interests are focused on functional and quality of life outcomes following pelvic floor surgery. She is an expert in novel techniques for treating fecal incontinence and bowel disorders in women, including sacral nerve stimulation and minimally invasive laparoscopic and robotic surgery.

PHILANTHROPY MAKES A DIFFERENCE

At Northwestern, we recognize that every positive contribution we make to the field of pelvic healthcare, research, and education is made possible by donors who entrust us with their philanthropic support. We invite interested friends to join us in supporting female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery by ensuring the success of the Women's Integrated Pelvic Health Program into the future. It is an exciting time as we pursue advances in research and training that will ultimately improve the lives and health of women living with pelvic disorders.

For more information, please contact:

