

Dr. Valery Danilack earns grant to study interventions for labor induction

PROVIDENCE – **VALERY A. DANILACK, MPH, PHD**, research associate in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Women & Infants Hospital and the Brown University School of Public Health, has recently received a five-year, \$533,000 Research Scientist Development Award from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Her research is entitled “Comparative Effectiveness of Interventions for Labor Induction.”

“My goal is to determine optimal methods of labor induction that minimize harm and maximize benefits while balancing operational cost,” explained Dr. Danilack. “We propose to utilize advanced statistical techniques to study important trade-offs between the effectiveness, side effects, resource use, and patient preferences of interventions used for labor induction.”

The study has three aims:

- To establish what is known about the comparative effectiveness of labor induction through a systematic review and meta-analysis of published literature;
- To establish a comprehensive database of deliveries at Women & Infants Hospital involving labor induction and survey postpartum patients about the labor induction experience, then analyze the relationship between different labor induction methods and patient-relevant and hospital-level outcomes;
- To examine the trade-off between benefits, harms and costs across different labor induction interventions from the perspective of the patients and of the hospital using decision analyses. ❖



The poster features a circular logo at the top center with the text "RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY" and "1812" around a central figure. Below the logo, the text reads "RIMS Special EVENT" in a large, stylized font. Underneath, it says "PAINT & WINE CLASS" in a bold, orange font, followed by the subtitle "Join your colleagues for a social evening of artistic expression and paint 'Snow Dawn'". The background of the poster is a blue-toned image of a path lined with trees.

MUSE PAINTBAR
117 North Main Street, Providence, Rhode Island

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2016
6:30 pm arrival; 7:00 pm painting begins

FOR RIMS MEMBERS AND GUESTS
\$40 per person

Limited space availability RSVP by November 24
Reserve via the Member Portal on www.rimed.org
or contact Megan Turcotte at 401-331-3207

W&I researcher receives two NIH grants to evaluate treatment strategies for perinatal brain injury

PROVIDENCE – Toward determining the most effective treatment strategies for full-term and premature infants exposed to HI and other perinatal brain injury, **BARBARA STONESTREET, MD**, a neonatal-perinatal specialist at Women & Infants Hospital and professor of pediatrics at The Warren Alpert Medical School, has received two two-year grants totaling \$881,100 from the National Institutes of Health. The grants are entitled, “Beneficial effects of inter-alpha inhibitors in fetal brain injury” and “Inter-alpha inhibitors: Novel neuroinflammatory modulator of neonatal brain injury.”



Collaborating with Dr. Stonestreet on these programs will be **YOW-PIN LIM, MD, PhD**, founder and CEO of ProThera Biologics. ProThera Biologics is pioneering the application of Inter-alpha inhibitor proteins (IAIPs) to severe inflammatory diseases including HI. In addition, **XIAODI CHEN, MD, PhD** who is a member of Dr. Stonestreet’s team and an assistant professor at Brown, has significantly contributed in writing these grants.

IAIPs are known to be effective in modulating inflammatory responses. However, Dr. Stonestreet explained, there is limited information regarding the neuroprotective properties of IAIPs, which could be beneficial in treating full-term and premature infants suffering from perinatal brain injury.

Dr. Stonestreet said, “These studies have exciting translational potential for an important new treatment strategy to prevent or decrease brain injury in infants at risk for brain damage, mental retardation or cerebral palsy.” ❖