

Selected Publications from the Unit

Kelly, C.J., Stenton, S.R. & Lashen, H. (2011) Insulin-like growth factor binding protein-1 in PCOS: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Human Reproduction Update* 17: 4-16.

Aboussahoud, W., Bruce, C., Elliott, S., & Fazeli, A., (2010) Activation of Toll-like receptor 5 decreases the attachment of human trophoblast cells to endometrial cells in vitro. *Human Reproduction* 25: 2217-2228.

Anumba, D.O., Lincoln, K., & Robson, S.C. (2010) Predictive Value of Clinical and Laboratory Indices at First Assessment in Women Referred with Suspected Gestational Hypertension. *Hypertension in Pregnancy* 29: 163-179.

Cookson, V.J. & Chapman, N.R. (2010). NF- κ B Function in the Human Myometrium during Pregnancy and Parturition. *Histology and Histopathology* 25: 945-956.

Hart, A.R., Smith, M.F., Rigby, A.S., Wallis, L.I. & Whitby, E.H. (2010) Appearances of diffuse excessive high signal intensity (DEHSI) on MR imaging following preterm birth. *Pediatric Radiology* 40: 1390-1396.

Reeves, M.J., Brandreth, M., Whitby, E.H., Hart, A.R., Paley, M.N., Griffiths, P.D. & Stevens, J.C. (2010) Neonatal cochlear function: measurement after exposure to acoustic noise during in utero MR imaging. *Radiology* 257: 802-809.

Senanayake, E., Pacey, A.A., Maddireddy, V., Shariff, U., Hastie, K., & Rosario, D.J., (2010) A novel cost-effective approach to post vasectomy semen analysis. *British Journal of Urology International*. 107: 1447-1452.

Gillies, E.A., Cannon, R.A., Green, R.B., & Pacey A.A., (2009) Hydrodynamic propulsion of human sperm. *Journal of Fluid Mechanics* 625: 444-473.

Pewsey, E., Bruce, C., Georgiou, A.S., Jones, M., Baker, D., Ow, S.Y., Wright, P.C., Freberg, C.K., Collas, P., & Fazeli, A. (2009) Proteomics analysis of epithelial Cells reprogrammed in cell-free extract. *Molecular & Cellular Proteomics* 8: 1401-1412.

Mohamed, K.A., Davies, W.A. & Lashen, H. (2006) Antimüllerian hormone and pituitary gland activity after prolonged downregulation with goserelin acetate. *Fertility and Sterility* 86: 1515-1517.

Anumba, D.O., Scott, J.E., Plant, N.D. & Robson, S.C. (2005) Diagnosis and outcome of fetal lower urinary tract obstruction in the northern region of England. *Prenatal Diagnosis* 25: 7-13.

Chapman, N.R., Smyrniak, I., Anumba D.O., Europe-Finner, G.N. & Robson, S.C. (2005) Expression of the GTP-binding protein (Gas) is repressed by the nuclear factor kappaB (NF- κ B) RelA subunit in human myometrium. *Endocrinology* 146: 4994-5002.



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For further information please contact

Gill Burkinshaw
Reproductive & Developmental Medicine
Level 4, Jessop Wing
Tree Root Walk
Sheffield
S10 2SF

T: +44(0)114 226 8537

F: +44(0)114 226 1074

E: g.m.burkinshaw@sheffield.ac.uk

The Academic Unit
Of Reproductive &
Developmental
Medicine.

A brief history

Research into Reproductive and Developmental Medicine at the University of Sheffield arguably began in earnest in 1950 with the appointment of Charles Scott Russell as the first full-time professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

His pioneering work investigating the adverse effects of maternal smoking on the incidence of prematurity, birth weight and the incidence of abortion, stillbirth and neonatal death (funded by the MRC) was ground breaking.

An early colleague was Sir Jack Dewhurst who spent 15 years in Sheffield and was appointed Reader in 1960 for his work on intersexual disorders and adolescent gynaecology. In 1967 Douglas Bevis was appointed as Senior Lecturer developing research interests in male infertility and some early research into *in vitro* fertilisation.

In 1972, Ian Cooke was appointed as Head of Department consolidating research into human fertility and infertility. One of the UK's first sperm banks was opened in the Department in 1985 and shortly afterwards one of the UK's first IVF units that led the way in understanding the endocrinology of ovarian stimulation in infertile women.

For a time, the academics in Obstetrics and Gynaecology were split across two sites with some being located at the Northern General Hospital and others at the Jessop Hospital for Women. But, following the building of a new women's hospital as a wing of the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, both the clinical services for the city and academic staff in the University were relocated to the Jessop Wing in early 2001.



Following Ian Cooke's retirement in 2000, William Ledger took over as the Professor in Obstetrics and Gynaecology overseeing the move to the Jessop Wing. Following several reorganisations of the Medical School, the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology became the Academic Unit of Reproductive and Developmental Medicine and is now part of the Department of Human Metabolism

In 2011, the Academic Unit currently comprises six academics with a range of research portfolios and continues the tradition of strong laboratory and clinical research into human reproduction and developmental biology. The current Head of the Academic Unit is Alireza Fazeli.

Current Academic Staff



Dilly Anumba joined the Unit in 2003 as a Clinical Senior Lecturer in Obstetrics and Fetal Medicine. His research interests include the physiology of human parturition, particularly the role of immunity and inflammation in term/preterm labour and pregnancy hypertension. He is also investigating new techniques to predict preterm birth

by the detection of cervical remodelling changes. Dilly runs specialist clinics in Prenatal Diagnosis and Fetal Therapy, Prematurity Prevention, and High Risk Pregnancy, all of which have research spin-offs. He is a member of the NICE Medical Technologies Advisory Committee (MTAC).



Neil Chapman obtained his PhD from the Unit in 1997 and returned as a Lecturer in 2005 after working as a postdoctoral research associate in Dundee and Newcastle. His research interests, which are funded by the MRC and Wellcome Trust, focus on understanding how the nuclear factor kappaB family of transcription factors regulate genome

function within the pregnant human myometrium. He is an acknowledged expert: he has just completed his four-year tenure as a panel member of the MRCOG Part 1 examination committee and also served as a scientific advisor to the Action Medical Research Stand up for Tiny Lives campaign.



Alireza Fazeli was appointed as Lecturer in 2002 and was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 2007 and Reader in 2011. He has research interests in the cross-talk between gametes and embryos and the maternal reproductive tract. He is also interested in understanding mechanisms involved in regulation of the innate immune system in the maternal tract.

He is Chairman and grant holder of the 'Maternal Interaction with Gametes and Embryos' European COST Action project (GEMINI; www.cost-gemini.eu). Alireza is Chairman of the British Andrology Society and is a member of the Editorial Board of Reproduction. He is currently Head of the Unit.



Hany Lashen joined the Unit in 2000 as a Clinical Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant in Reproductive Medicine and Gynaecology in Sheffield Teaching Hospitals. His research interests include reproductive endocrinology, reproductive potential, psychological impact of reproductive failure and reproductive surgery and interaction between

obesity and reproduction. Recently, he has formed a strong international group with colleagues from the UK and Finland to study the relationship between hyperandrogenism as a function of the interaction between development and the genome and its impact on cardiovascular risk in teenage girls.



Allan Pacey arrived in Sheffield in 1992 and was employed as a Postdoctoral Research Associate and then appointed as Lecturer in 1997 and Senior Lecturer in 2001. He has research interests in male fertility and infertility (Andrology) covering a broad range of topics including human sperm biology, fertility preservation for cancer patients,

infertility diagnosis and treatment, service delivery and healthcare policy. Allan is a sub-Editor of the Human Fertility and on the Editorial Boards of Reproduction and Fertility & Sterility. He is currently the Chairman of the Steering Committee of the National External Quality Assurance Schemes UK in Andrology.



Elsbeth Whitby studied Medicine at Manchester University before starting her academic radiology training in Sheffield and successfully defending her PhD in 2007. Since 2003 Elspeth has been a Senior Lecturer at the University of Sheffield and also works as a Consultant Radiologist in Sheffield Teaching Hospitals. Elspeth has an interest in neonatal and

fetal/obstetric MR imaging of development and pathology. Elspeth is an Associate Editor of the British Journal of Radiology and an active member of both the Northern Branch and MRI subcommittee of the British Institute of Radiology.