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ENDOWMENT  
FOR TRAINING & EDUCATION  
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**A TRIBUTE TO ALDO VACCA, FRCOG FRANZCOG**

Proceeds from this meeting will be used to fund a RANZCOG prize in memory of Aldo  
Lecture Theatre . Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists . London

THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2015

Chairman: Sir Iain Chalmers

## 09:20 Introduction

Leroy Edozien, Consultant in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, St Mary's Hospital, Manchester

### Two Chalmers's, but only one inimitable Vacca

Sir Iain Chalmers

## 09:30 Historical evolution of the vacuum extractor

Professor Tom Basket, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

## 09:40 Fetal Heart Rate patterns of concern that need operative vaginal delivery

Professor Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran, St. George's University of London; President, International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO)

## 10:10 Operative vaginal delivery and levator ani muscle trauma

Professor Hans Peter Dietz, Professor in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University of Sydney, Australia

## 10:40 Suboptimal instrument placement at operative vaginal delivery: risk factors, complications and training issues

Mr Kim Hinshaw, Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologist and Director of Research & Innovation at Sunderland Royal Hospital

## 11:10 Discussion

### 11:25 Coffee

## 11:55 Rotational operative vaginal delivery: how does vacuum extractor compare with Kjelland's forceps?

Dr Rachna Bahl, Consultant Obstetrician, St Michael's Hospital, Bristol

## 12:20 Trial of operative vaginal delivery: when and how to do it

Mr Edwin Chandarahan, Consultant Obstetrician, St George's Hospital, London

## 12:50 Discussion

### 13:00 Lunch

## 14:00 Head injuries after operative vaginal delivery: etiology, clinical features and prevention

Mr Stergios Doumouchtsis, Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, St George's Healthcare NHS Trust; Honorary Senior Lecturer, St. George's University of London

## 14:30 Maternal and perinatal outcomes associated with delivery by the rigid plastic vacuum delivery device: the Canadian experience

Professor Tom Basket

## 15:00 Discussion

### 15:20 Coffee

## 15:50 Medico-legal issues in operative vaginal delivery

Mr Martin Spencer QC, Hailsham Chambers, London

## 16:20 Risk management: taxonomy of error in operative vaginal delivery

Leroy Edozien

## 16:35 Discussion

### 16:45 Tributes

RCOG - Dr David Richmond, President

RANZCOG - Professor Michael Permezel, President

Impact in Italy - Dr Alberto Valle, past Director, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Turin, Italy

## 17:05 Close, followed by refreshments



### Aldo Vacca

"I doubt there is an obstetrician in all of Australasia, living or deceased, who has had such a beneficial impact on women's lives, an impact that will last for at least another generation or two."

Hans Peter Dietz, Sydney Medical School; O&G Magazine, 2015

Aldo was Consultant Obstetrician at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, Brisbane, Australia and Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, The University of Queensland.

He developed an interest in operative vaginal delivery while working with G C Bird in Papua New Guinea, and subsequently published extensively in this area of obstetric practice. He worked in the UK in the 1970s and conducted the famous Portsmouth vacuum trial that popularised vacuum delivery.

His hallmark legacy is the hand-operated hard plastic device for vacuum-assisted delivery. Also, he has been credited with preventing an estimated 40,000 cases of major permanent maternal trauma in Australia.

Aldo conducted training workshops in Europe, USA, Canada, and south Asia, and was always friendly, warm, and ever willing to help those who needed his wisdom.

He was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 2007 for 'services to medicine in the field of obstetrics and gynaecology, particularly through the research and promotion of the technique of vacuum extraction delivery', and the RANZCOG Distinguished Service Medal in 2011.

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## SPEAKERS

The meeting will be chaired by **Sir Iain Chalmers** FRCP, FRCPE, FFPH, FCOG(SA), whose father (Hamish) introduced the vacuum extractor (ventouse) to British obstetric practice. He is a co-author of the report of Aldo Vacca's Portsmouth operative delivery trial (Vacca, Grant, Wyatt, Chalmers BJOG 1983;90:1107-1112), and a coauthor with his father of a commentary on vaginal instrumental delivery (Chalmers and Chalmers BJOG 1989;96:505-506 & 1457-1458). Sir Iain was the first Director of the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit and one of the founders of the Cochrane Collaboration. He is founding editor of The James Lind Library and coordinator of the James Lind Initiative. He received a BMJ Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014.

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**Thomas F Baskett** MB, FRCS(C), FRCS (Ed), FRCOG, DHMSA. Tom Baskett is a graduate of the Queen's University of Belfast and did his postgraduate training in Northern Ireland. Since 1980 he has worked in Halifax, Nova Scotia where he is currently Professor Emeritus in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Dalhousie University. He is a past president of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada. In 2002, with the guidance of Aldo Vacca, he organized the prospective audit of 1000 cases using the OmniCup vacuum in Halifax. He has published widely on clinical obstetrics, operative gynaecology and the history of medicine. He wrote the chapter on 'The history of vacuum extraction' in Vacca A. handbook of Vacuum Delivery in Obstetric Practice. 2nd edition, 2003.

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**Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran** MD PhD FRCS(Ed) FRCOG FACOG HonFCOG(SA) was professor and head of obstetrics and gynaecology at St George's, University of London from 2001 to 2013. He is the current president of the International Federation of

Gynaecology and Obstetrics (FIGO), and previously served as president of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and president of the British Medical Association. He holds honorary fellowships of the college/society of obstetricians and gynaecologists in The USA, Canada, South Africa, West Africa, Germany, Pakistan, Malaysia and Si Lanka, and has published extensively on various topics in the specialty. Sir Arul is particularly recognised for his knowledge and skills in electronic fetal monitoring.

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**Prof. Hans Peter Dietz** graduated from Heidelberg University, Germany, in 1988, obtaining an MD there in 1989. He arrived in Australia in 1997 and completed his FRANZCOG training in 1998. Between 1999 and 2002, he undertook urogynaecology subspecialty training in Sydney and obtained a PhD with UNSW. Since 2009 he is Professor in O/G at the Sydney Medical School Nepean, University of Sydney. He is the author of 233 peer-reviewed publications and 13 book chapters and lives in the Blue Mountains west of Sydney with his wife Susanne and two sons.

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**Mr Kim Hinshaw** MB BS FRCOG has been a Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologist in Sunderland since 1994. He is Director of Research & Innovation, Honorary Visiting Professor at the University of Sunderland, and Clinical Research Lead (Division 3) for the NE & N Cumbria NIHR Clinical Research Network. His interests are high-risk pregnancy, obstetric skills-drills training and postgraduate education. He has chaired the POET UK Working Group (Pre-hospital Obstetric Emergency Training) and the ALSO UK Advisory Board. Kim is the current Faculty Lead for the Baby Lifeline 'BIRTH2' programme and a member of the MOET UK Working Group. He has chaired several RCOG education committees.

**Dr Rachna Bahl** MBBS, MD, MRCOG is a consultant obstetrician at St. Michael's Hospital, University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust with interest in obstetric risk management and operative vaginal birth training. She co-authored the RCOG green top guideline on Operative Vaginal Delivery. Her research and publications in this field include studies of morbidity related to operative vaginal birth and defining the technical and non-technical skills for operative vaginal birth.

**Dr Edwin Chandarahan** MBBS, MS(Obs & Gyn), DFSRH, DCRM, MRCOG, FSLCOG is the lead Consultant Labour Ward and Clinical Director for Women's Services at St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. He has a special interest in intrapartum fetal heart rate monitoring, massive postpartum haemorrhage and rotational operative vaginal births. Edwin has conducted several Hands on Masterclasses in Ventouse Delivery and was the co-trainer with Prof Aldo Vacca for the 'Vacca Ventouse Masterclasses' for over 10 years. He has published extensively on obstetric emergencies, including on operative vaginal births, and has been an invited speaker at several scientific conferences. He holds the Cardiff Law School Expert Witness Certificate and provides expert opinion in clinical negligence claims involving operative vaginal deliveries.

**Stergios (Stelios) Doumouchtsis** MSc MPH PhD MRCOG is a Consultant Obstetrician-Gynaecologist and RCOG accredited subspecialist Urogynaecologist at St George's University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, and Honorary Senior Lecturer at St George's University of London. He is the Lead Consultant for Childbirth Injury and Pelvic Health after Childbirth. His other roles include: Visiting Professor at the University of Athens - Medical School; Scientific Editor for BJOG; member of the RCOG Council (London Members Representative); member of

The **Endowment For Training And Education In Reproduction (ENTER)** was established by Leroy Edozien in 1999. It has organised regional and national meetings and funded education and training opportunities such as simulation training, ultrasound scan training and postgraduate degree in counselling. For 16 consecutive years, it has organised a national meeting on Risk Management and Medico-Legal Issues in Women's Health Care.

several national and international scientific and professional committees, working groups and societies including FIGO, IUGA, ICS, BSUG. He has published extensively in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and has participated as an invited speaker in several national and international conferences.

**Mr Martin Spencer** QC was educated at Ampleforth College and Hertford College, Oxford where he read law. After a year's research at the Institute of Criminal Science in Copenhagen, he underwent pupillage and joined Hailsham Chambers in 1981 where he is now Head of Chambers. He has a wide and varied practice involving all aspects of clinical negligence, representing both claimants and defendants. Martin has a particular interest in high-quantum claims. He has been a Recorder since 2001, was appointed as a Bencher of Inner Temple in 2011 and has contributed to the highly regarded publications: Kemp & Kemp (Editorial Board and chapter contributions) and McGregor on Damages 19th Edition: (chapter contribution). In 2006/07, he represented Luke Purver in his claim for damages arising out of trial of operative delivery. After the High Court decided in Luke's favour, the claim was settled in 2009 for a sum equivalent to more than £7m.

**Leroy Edozien** LLB PhD FWACS FRCOG is a consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist at St Mary's Hospital, Manchester. He holds qualifications in the basic sciences, law and medicine and has a special interest in healthcare risk management. His taxonomy of error in operative vaginal delivery was published in the paper Towards Safe Practice in Instrumental Vaginal Delivery (Best Pract Res Clin Obstet Gynaecol 2007;21:639-55) and in the 12th edition of the iconic textbook Munro Kerr's Operative Obstetrics (Saunders, 2014). He wrote the RCOG guidance document on obtaining consent for operative vaginal delivery.

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