

# AJOG opens editorial office in China: Professor Huixia Yang appointed Editor



Roberto Romero, MD, DMedSci, Editor-in-Chief for Obstetrics

On the occasion of its 150th anniversary, the *American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology* has expanded its editorial offices to include Beijing, China. Professor Huixia Yang, MD, PhD, has been appointed as Editor of the Beijing post.

Professor Yang graduated from the Medical Institute of Shandong University, Shandong, China, in 1986 and pursued an internship and residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Peking University First Hospital in Beijing, China, where she obtained her doctorate. From 2000 to 2002, she was a Research Fellow at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and worked in the laboratories of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

In her current position as Director of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Peking University First Hospital, Professor Yang is the Principal Investigator of a prospective randomized clinical trial that assessed the efficacy and safety of low-dose aspirin in the prevention of preeclampsia in China,<sup>1</sup> and her team is engaged in understanding the mechanisms whereby aspirin prevents



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preeclampsia through its actions in inhibiting nuclear-factor kappa B (NFκB) and the release of soluble Flt-1.<sup>2,3</sup>

Her main focus has been on the diagnosis, management, and prevention of metabolic syndrome in the context of gestational diabetes mellitus<sup>4</sup>. The Yang lab is the Beijing Key Laboratory of Maternal Fetal Medicine of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus, and she has had cooperation with some labs in the Chinese Academy of Science for many years. Professor Yang's work has been funded by the Natural Science Foundation of China and the World Diabetes Foundation.

Recognizing the central importance of the "first 1000 days" for optimal development of every child, Professor Yang founded and chairs the Chinese Developmental Origins of Health and Disease (DOHaD) Society, an affiliated group of the International Society for DOHaD. She has conducted research to identify early biomarkers as well as interventions to reduce adverse outcome in pregnancy. Two papers in particular focus on the preventive benefits of exercise early in pregnancy.<sup>5,6</sup>

With extensive experience in collaborative multicenter research, more than 750 papers published in national and international journals, and numerous monographs and other books, Professor Yang is widely recognized as a prominent figure in obstetrics and gynecology.

A leader at heart, she guided the Chinese Society of Perinatal Medicine for six years as its President. She has also served as Vice President of the Chinese Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology and as Chair of the National Obstetric Group, among other roles in academic medicine.

A member of the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics' Working Group for Good Clinical Practice in Maternal-Foetal Medicine, Professor Yang has also contributed as an external expert to the Guideline Development Group, which produced the World Health Organization's Diagnostic Criteria and Classification of Hyperglycaemia First Detected in Pregnancy.

We welcome Professor Yang to the editorial team of *AJOG* and look forward to the continuing contributions of Chinese physician-scientists. ■

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Dr. Romero has contributed to this work as part of his official duties as an employee of the United States Federal Government.

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