



## SEPTEMBER 2018



### President's Greeting

Emelia A. Bachman, M.D.  
President

**G**reetings! As the summer comes to an end, we look forward to the fall and another year of PARES meetings. It is an honor to serve as your president of PARES this year. We have a fantastic group of speakers planned. On September 20th, we will welcome back Dr. Bruce Lessey to discuss endometrial receptivity testing. In November, we are looking forward to a combined meeting with the Delaware Valley Reproductive Biologists Group where Dr. Santiago Muneé will discuss the origins of aneuploidy in the embryo. In January, PARES will host the joint meeting with the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia and we are delighted to welcome Dr. Marcelle Cedars as our guest speaker. Finally, I am thrilled that Dr. Christos Coutifaris, our current ASRM president, will join us for the last meeting to discuss the past, present and future of our field.

Please, if you have not done so, renew your membership or become a new member today. The success of our group depends on all of our participation.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you this year and encourage everyone to join us!

Warmly,

Emelia A. Bachman, M.D.  
*President*

### Meet the Board (2018-2019)



Emelia A. Bachman, M.D.  
President



Jay Schinfeld, M.D.  
President-Elect



Divya Shah, M.D.  
Secretary-Treasurer



Oumar Kuzbari, M.D.  
Secretary-Treasurer Elect



Ron Feinberg, M.D.  
Director at Large



Maureen Kelly, M.D.  
Immediate Past President

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ASRM Press Release

NJ Law piece

2018-19 Meeting Schedule

### Thursday, September 20, 2018 Endometrial Receptivity Testing in 2018

*Bruce A. Lessey, M.D., Ph.D.*  
*Professor*

*Greenville Health System, University of South  
Carolina School of Medicine*

# OVARIAN AGING AND FERTILITY

Anne Steiner, M.D., Ph. D.

April 19, 2018



Dr. Maureen Kelly and Speaker, Anne Steiner, M.D., Ph.D.



PARES President, Maureen Kelly, M.D. and Anna Sokalska M.D., Ph.D. Penn Fellow Anna Sokalska, M.D., Ph.D. was awarded the Luigi Mastroianni Award for Excellence in Research in the Discipline of Reproductive Endocrinology



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# Report on the New Jersey Gestational Carrier Agreement Act



**Melissa B. Brisman, Esq.**

On May 30, 2018, Governor Murphy signed into law the New Jersey Gestational Carrier Agreement Act (the “Act”). This legislation permits the execution of an enforceable contract between a NJ woman, (and her spouse, if married) wishing to serve as a gestational carrier and become pregnant on behalf of an individual or couple (“intended parents”) through assisted reproductive technology (ART) procedures, using the intended parents’ genetic material (or that of a donor(s)). Under such a contract, the gestational carrier (and husband, if married) acknowledges the arrangement and waives any and all parental rights to any child born as a result of the ART procedures. The Act also sets forth a legal procedure that is initiated prior to birth, awarding parental rights to the intended parents. This means that from the moment the child is born, the intended parents are viewed as the child’s legal parents by the hospital staff, who will look to them to make all decisions on behalf of their child and will submit paperwork to the NJ Board of Vital Statistics, so that the birth certificate issued will bear their names.

The Act allows the intended parent(s) to pay for a gestational carrier’s “reasonable expenses” which include medical and hospital expenses, living expenses such as food, clothing, shelter, and counseling services during the pregnancy as well as for a period following delivery of the child. For the protection of all of the involved parties, the Act is very specific as to the terms that must be included in a contract. For example, the gestational carrier must be at least 21 years old and have given birth to at least one child, must complete a medical and psychological evaluation prior to executing the contract. The couple or individual must also complete a psychological evaluation prior to executing any contract, and all parties must be represented by counsel during contract negotiations. This legislation has been long awaited. We are very excited that NJ recognized the need and was willing to join with other states in helping its residents realize their family building goals.

*Melissa Brisman graduated Valedictorian from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and graduated with honors from Harvard Law School. She is an attorney admitted to practice in MA, NJ, NY, and PA. Melissa Brisman is owner of Reproductive Possibilities, LLC (Surrogate Agency), Melissa B. Brisman, Esq., LLC (Reproductive Law Firm) and Surrogate Fund Management, LLC (Escrow Account Management Company). Melissa first started helping couples become parents in 1996 and has three children all born via gestational carriers. She understands the emotion and concern involved in creating a family and as a lawyer, has helped hundreds of parents have babies using all available reproductive technologies, while protecting their legal rights.*

## ASRM Press Release: Delaware Joins States Requiring Coverage of IVF and Fertility Preservation

Jul 02, 2018  
By: ASRM  
Origin: ASRM Bulletin

Delaware Governor John Carney signed into law a bill (SB139) to require insurers to cover a comprehensive list of infertility treatments, including IVF, bringing the number of states that now require some form of infertility coverage to sixteen and the number of states requiring coverage of fertility preservation services for those at risk of iatrogenic infertility to four. The new law becomes effective immediately.

The law requires all individual health insurance policies and contracts that are delivered, renewed, extended, or modified in the State by any health insurer, health service corporation, or health maintenance organization and that provide for medical or hospital expenses to also include coverage for fertility care services, including IVF. Individuals who suffer from a disease or condition that results in the inability to procreate or to carry a pregnancy to live birth are eligible. The benefits must be provided to covered individuals, covered spouses and covered non-spouse dependents, to the same extent as other pregnancy-related benefits.

With respect to IVF, the new law allows for six completed egg retrievals per lifetime, with unlimited embryo transfers in accordance with ASRM guidelines; single embryo transfer is encouraged when recommended and medically appropriate. The law indicates that no more than three cycles of ovulation induction or intrauterine inseminations may be required before IVF is covered, and that if IVF is medically necessary, prior cycles of ovulation induction or intrauterine inseminations are not required. Retrievals must be completed before age 45 and transfers must be completed before age 50.

Individuals who must undergo medically necessary treatment that may cause iatrogenic infertility are eligible for standard fertility preservation services, defined as those procedures consistent with ASRM and American Society for Clinical Oncology medical practices and guidelines.

The new law does not apply to self-insured health plans or to employer sponsored plans with fewer than 50 employees. Exclusions are also permitted for employers when the required coverage conflicts with the religious organization's bona fide religious beliefs and practices.

*The ASRM Bulletin is published by ASRM's Office of Public Affairs to inform Society members of important recent developments. Permission to reprint this press release was obtained from ASRM.*



## 2018-19 Meeting Schedule

**Thursday, September 20, 2018**  
**Endometrial Receptivity Testing in 2018**



*Bruce A. Lessey, M.D., Ph.D.*  
*Professor*  
*Greenville Health System, University of South Carolina School of Medicine*

**Thursday, January 10, 2019**  
**JOINT OB/PARES MEETING**



*Marcelle Cedars, M.D.*  
*Director, Center for Reproductive Health,*  
*University of California San Francisco*

**Thursday, November 29, 2018**  
**(Joint DVRBG/PARES Meeting)**  
**Origins of Aneuploidy in the Embryo**



*Santiago Munné, PhD*  
*COO and Co-founder at Overture Life*  
*Founder of Reprogenetics*

**Thursday, March 21, 2019**



*Christos Coutifaris MD, PhD*  
*Chief, Division of Reproductive Endocrinology*  
*and Infertility*  
*Celso-Ramon Garcia Professor*  
*Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania*  
*President, American Society of Reproductive*  
*Medicine*