



Women's Health Research Consortium Annual Newsletter 2020

From the leadership committee of the WHRC, we would like to thank all of the faculty, residents and students who have worked hard all year to complete important and relevant research that has worked to further the field of women's health. The mission of the WHRC is to increase research opportunities for students, improve research quality, and provide much needed analysis on the state of women's health in South Louisiana. The accomplishments of each participant in the WHRC showcase the successes of that mission. We are sending a sincere THANK YOU to each person who has contributed to the WHRC over the past 12 months.

Welcome to New Chair-Elects!

We are pleased to introduce our newest members of the leadership team within WHRC, Katherine Henry & Madison Lanza. Both students have demonstrated their passion for women's health and research through their previous experiences. Katie states "It is no secret that women's health services in our area struggle to keep up with the growing needs of the community. As a hopeful future provider in this field, I have a personal commitment to this cause and will advocate for women's health research and resources." Madison says she "found the WHRC to be a breath of fresh air when navigating [her] first semester of medical school. While every interest group/organization spoke about how important research was, the WHRC provided an opportunity and was so helpful in getting started with research. I love the positive and motivating work environment and I will carry this on for incoming grades to come." We are happy to welcome them and we look forward to their time as leaders!

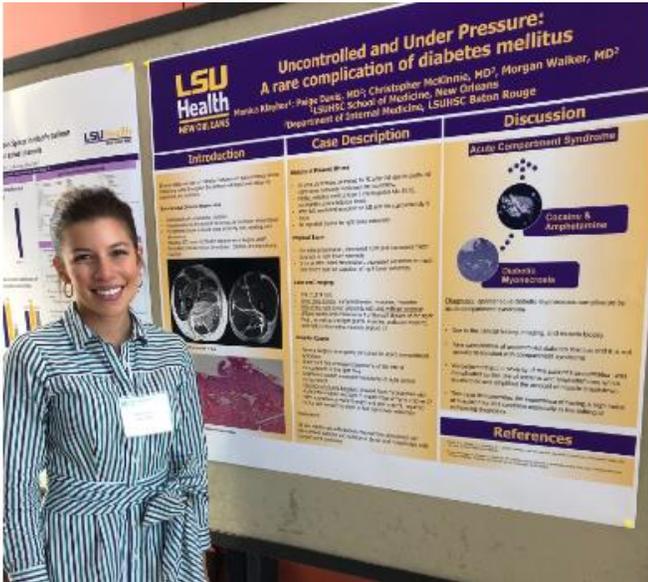
Completed Projects

Summer & Fall 2019

- **Hotz, M.**, Tanner, L. "Barriers to election voting among medical students". Presented at ACOG District Meeting.
- **McDougal, M.**, Nair-Fairless, P., **Weiss, T.**, Jernigan, A. "Healthcare Disparities in Genetic Evaluation of Women with Endometrial Cancer in New Orleans." Presented at Western Association of Gynecologic Oncologists Conference.

Winter & Spring 2020

- Shustarovich, D., **McNeely, M.**, Andrew, C. Scheib, S. "Correlation of endometriosis on MRI and surgical pathology." Presented at Society of Gynecologic Surgeons Conference.
- **Gilbert, O.**, **Rezvani, N.**, **Smith, C.**, Chapple, A., Nair, N., and Jernigan, A. "Patient Perception of Gynecologic Clinical Trial Participation in the Deep South." Poster presentation at the Society of Gynecologic Oncology Annual Meeting on Women's Cancer.
- **Klaybor, M.**, Davis, P., McKinnie, C., & Walker, M. "Uncontrolled and Under Pressure: A rare complication of diabetes mellitus." Presented at ACP Louisiana Annual Meeting and LSU Medicine Research Day.
- **Duhon, A.***, **Schachter, A.***, **Roth, M.**, **Kamal, S.**, Crabtree, J., Scheib, S., Jernigan, A. "The Women's Health Research Consortium: improving medical student satisfaction with research opportunities." Presented at AMSA National Convention.



Monica Klaybor presents her research at the ACP Louisiana Annual Meeting, March 2020

Message from the Senior Advisors

We started the WHRC in 2018 when we saw a need to provide more structure and direction for students pursuing research. Over the past two years, the WHRC has offered the tools and resources to help students complete their own research projects and become confident in their abilities as a researcher. We have been blown away by the support from our faculty in many fields, and the enthusiasm and success of the students. We are so proud of each accomplishment that has unfolded as a result of the consortium. None of our successes would be possible without the support and guidance of our faculty advisors, Dr. Stacey Scheib, Dr. Judy Crabtree, and Dr. Amelia Jernigan. While we are sad to leave LSU and New Orleans for our residency training, we know that the WHRC has been left in excellent hands and will continue to be a wonderful resource for students in the future.

Sincerely, Aubrey Schachter & Ashley Duhon

2020-2021 Leadership

Senior Advisors (L4)

Maya Roth, Saman Kamal

Chairs (L3)

Polly Gwan, Tina Nguyen

Chair-Elects (L2)

Katie Henry, Madison Lanza

Resident Representative

Yetunde Akinde

Advisors

Dr. Amelia Jernigan, Dr. Judy Crabtree, Dr. Stacey Scheib

Project Spotlight

Decision to incision time in emergent and trauma surgery - Women Support Women Right?

Schachter, A., Boudreaux, T., Guice, K., Gwan, A. Boudreaux, T., Boudreaux, S., Gnerlich, J., Chapple, A., Guidry, C., Jernigan, A.

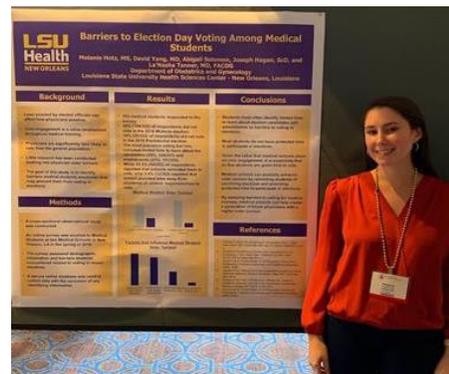
Introduction: Sexism and bias against female surgeons exist today and may impede patient care. This study examines discrepancies in decision-to-incision time (DIT) for male and female surgeons performing emergent surgeries.

Methods: A retrospective chart review of emergent and trauma cases was conducted at a Level 1 Trauma Center between August 2015 - October 2019. DIT was calculated from case posting time to incision time. Additional variables included indication, patient gender and age, time of day, surgeon gender and experience, and gender of assisting staff in the operating room. Poisson regression model with random effects for 10 unique surgery indications and surgeon ID was performed.

Results: 1226 emergent general surgery or trauma cases were included for analysis. DIT did not vary significantly between male and female surgeons (80.38 vs. 70.72 minutes, $p=0.50$). After controlling for other factors, female surgeons operating with a majority female staff (Both:F) had a DIT that was 1.08 times longer than with a majority male staff ($p < 0.01$). On average, female surgeons with majority male staff had a DIT of 59.19 minutes and female surgeons with majority female staff had a DIT of 85.49 minutes. Male surgeon DIT did not vary with staff gender.

Conclusion: Female surgeons who operate with predominantly female staff in emergency settings have a prolonged DIT, leading to critical delays in patient care. Efforts to identify and correct implicit bias against female surgeons are key to ensuring excellent patient outcomes and requires collaborative engagement by all team members.

This project has been submitted for the American College of Surgeons Annual Clinical Congress and is under review.



For more information or to join the WHRC, visit www.medschool.lsuhsoc.edu/lswwhrc or email WHRC@lsuhsoc.edu