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Leading Experts in Genetics and Pregnancy Announce the Creation of a New Consortium

February 24, 2020, Washington, DC – Prenatal genetic screening is a complex and rapidly evolving field of medicine. In an effort to help promote consensus recommendations and strive for consistency among various medical societies that issue recommendations and guidelines in the area of prenatal genetic testing, six national organizations have partnered to create the Reproductive Genetics Technology Consortium (<u>rgtc.perinatalquality.org</u>).

Member organizations include the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics; American Society for Reproductive Medicine; International Society for Prenatal Diagnosis; National Society of Genetic Counselors; Perinatal Quality Foundation; and Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine. Representatives from each organization will meet regularly and as needed to facilitate group discussion and/or consensus.

The new Consortium aims to facilitate communication between professional organizations in their development of practice guidelines and to provide a forum for different societies to discuss appropriate utilization of reproductive genetic testing. It will also provide a forum through which commercial laboratories or other entities developing new technologies can proactively communicate to obtain input and guidance regarding new testing and will provide consensus expert opinions about the clinical utility and application of emerging genetic tests.

"Each member of the new Consortium has a goal of optimizing the health of women and infants," said SMFM representative, Mary Norton, MD. "Bringing our organizations together will establish an opportunity for dialogue between stakeholders and provide a stronger voice on these important issues."

To contact the Consortium, email Jean Spitz, MPH, CAE, RDMS at jspitz@perinatalquality.org.

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About SMFM

The Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM) is a non-profit, membership organization based in Washington, DC. With more than 4,000 physicians, scientists and women's health professionals around the world, the Society supports the clinical practice of maternal-fetal medicine by providing education, promoting research and engaging in advocacy to optimize the health of high-risk pregnant women and their babies. SMFM hosts an annual scientific meeting in which new ideas and research related to high risk pregnancies are unveiled and discussed. For more information, visit SMFM.org and connect with organization on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.