More than 11 million American women suffer from incontinence, and one in 10 women will need surgery for pelvic organ prolapse. In the past, many women with these conditions and other forms of pelvic floor disorders suffered in silence. Today, with a rise in the subspecialty of urogynecology, we are now seeing a high demand for urogynecology services. In 1996, there was one board-accredited fellowship program for advanced training in urogynecology. By 2010, according to the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the number of accredited fellowship programs for urogynecology had grown to 37, and membership in societies associated with the sub-specialty had doubled.

Our residents rotate on outpatient urogynecology during their third year of training where they learn to evaluate and manage pelvic floor disorders such as urinary and fecal incontinence, pelvic organ prolapse, bladder pain, and recurrent bladder infections. After completing residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology, urogynecologists undergo fellowship training where they spend several years focusing only on pelvic floor disorders.

We are one of the few practices in the nation to unite multiple specialists in one location to better coordinate our patients’ care. We offer a full spectrum of custom-tailored treatment options including conservative medical and behavioral management and a wide array of surgical procedures. Our physicians are deeply involved in research to continually learn more about reasons for pelvic health problems and to improve treatments of these conditions. Plans are underway for a multi-specialty center for pelvic floor disorders. This will be the only center in New York State to include: gynecology, urology, colorectal surgery, physical therapy, gastroenterology, internal medicine, and alternative medicine (acupuncture).

Urogynecology is now a top priority for our department as we continue to find better ways to care for women dealing with these painful and distressing conditions. It is our goal to build on the solid foundation of Dr. Thiede. Please join us as we give women back the freedom to live healthy and productive lives.
Your gift can help women receive the specialized care they need

You can help us as we find even better ways to care for woman with pelvic floor disorders. By supporting the people who will develop innovative solutions, educate the next generation of leaders like Dr. Thiede, and heal the millions of women in need of care, you are helping shape the way we restore women’s health.

FACULTY

ENDOWED DIRECTOR OF UROGYNECOLOGY—$3,000,000
Approximately 30-65% of women in the United States experience urinary incontinence. It is our goal to encourage women to seek the treatment they need. An endowment in honor of the director of the division of Urogynecology will provide permanent support for the treatment of incontinence in women, an often undertreated problem. Recruiting a specialist with crucial expertise in pelvic floor dysfunction will help women live comfortably and enhance their quality of life.

ENDOWED AND DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORSHIPS IN UROGYNECOLOGY—$1,500,000 to $2,000,000 OR MORE
Endowed professorships are permanent funds that honor acclaimed leaders who perform groundbreaking research, mentor junior faculty, and attract and retain talented fellows, residents, and students. They are among the most coveted and defining rewards that a faculty member can receive, recognizing and fostering excellence. Professorships also serve as a powerful recruitment tool, drawing new faculty of established distinction from around the world.

ENDOWED RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FUNDS—$500,000 to $1,000,000
Endowed research and education funds provide lasting support of the work of scientists or clinicians who have not yet attained the level of professor, but whose work sets them apart from their peers.

RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL PILOT PROJECTS/SEED FUNDS—$50,000 to $250,000 (annually)
Gifts for seed funding are “risk capital.” They allow scientists to shift the direction of their research to follow promising leads, new ideas, or use new technology to propel scientific discoveries in new ways to help women suffering from pelvic floor disorders.

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS

ENDOWED FELLOWSHIPS—$750,000 OR MORE
Fellowships provide significant work experiences for clinicians to hone their skills and further explore a particular field of medicine, such as urogynecology. These fellowships provide permanent support that allows fellows to complete their training without having to devote time to working outside their field, or resorting to additional loans for support.

ANNUAL FELLOWSHIPS—$25,000 to $75,000
These fellowships support an aspiring clinician, for one year, while providing training and mentorship in the health care setting.