

Urogynecology



HENRY THIEDE, M.D.

Professor Emeritus

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Although Henry Thiede '45, '56M (Res) put his medical career to rest, he continues to be a champion of women's health. With a generous gift to the University of Rochester Medical Center, Dr. Thiede has established the Urogynecology Endowment. The endowed fund will support the Division of Urogynecology within the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in perpetuity, ensuring UR Medicine will always be a source of ideas for prevention of disease, better care and treatment, and potential cures.

Dr. Thiede is one of the giants in the field on whose shoulders we now stand. During his tenure as the third chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (1974-1995) he transformed the department and redefined the standards for women's health. He was a pioneer in the field of urogynecology, and was first to recognize that women with pelvic floor disorders were not receiving the careful attention and effective treatments they deserved, instituting urogynecology as a subspecialty at the Medical Center. Dr. Thiede also paved the way for the Medical Center's first urodynamics laboratory at Strong Memorial Hospital.

"Henry's sharp insight is one of the many reasons he is a trailblazer in our field and why I'm so proud to have his support. I hope others will join Henry in making a difference for women everywhere," said Eva Pressman, M.D., the Henry A. Thiede Professor and chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Pressman's professorship was created in Dr. Thiede's honor by an anonymous donor in 1991.



Restoring Freedom for Women with Pelvic Floor Disorders

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.

For more information about how your gift can make an impact, please contact Dianne Moll at:
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MEDICINE of THE HIGHEST ORDER