Distinguished Speaker

Natalia Schlabritz-Lutsevich, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology
& Regional Associate Dean, TTUHSC at Permian Basin

Mechanisms of Developmental programming by maternal obesity

Monday 10/16/2017; 12:00-12:50 pm; Human Sciences Bldg. Room 216
Contact: Dr. Naima Moustaid-Moussa (naima.moustaid-moussa@ttu.edu)

Dr. Schlabritz-Lutsevich started her medical studies at the Belorussian State Medical University (BSMU) with residency training in obstetrics/gynecology. She received her PhD from the BSMU, board certification in obstetrics/gynecology with the state of Low Saxonia (Germany) and her MD from the Christian Albrecht University of Kiel (Germany). She then joined the Institute of Hormone and Fertility Research at the University of Hamburg (Germany) as a post-doctoral fellow. In 2002 she joined Dr. Peter Nathanielsz team, the world renowned fetal physiologist at NYU then at the UTHSC at San Antonio. Their work laid the foundation for the baboon model of developmental programming, and non-human primate models of maternal undernutrition and stress. She was co-investigator on NIH program projects and also received independent funding to study fetal and maternal consequences of maternal obesity and pre-eclampsia. She was next recruited to the University of TN Health Science Center in Memphis where she studied fetal cardiovascular physiology using minimally invasive fetal interventions. There, she established the baboon model of maternal alcohol consumption and was funded by NIH to evaluate fetal middle cerebral artery responses to maternal binge drinking. Her focus on the endogenous cannabinoid system led to discovery of the fetal syndrome of endocannabinoid deficiency in the baboon model of maternal obesity and in humans. Dr. Schlabritz-Lutsevich moved to the TTUHSC at Permian Basin 3 years ago, where she developed a human placental perfusion system, and continues her research program while providing research leadership and mentoring medical students, residents, and fellows.