

**2011 SPP Annual Perinatal Symposium**  
**Beyond the Laundry List - Diverse Perspectives on Nonimmune Fetal Hydrops**  
**Milwaukee, WI**  
**October 2, 2011**

**Synopsis**

This symposium is developed in order to provide a varied, well-rounded, and practical multidisciplinary perspective on fetal hydrops (or hydrops fetalis), which is defined as the accumulation of excess fluid within the fetal extravascular compartments and body cavities involving 2 or more intrauterine locations (including pleural and pericardial effusion, ascites, subcutaneous edema, and polyhydramnios). It represents the end-stage manifestation of a broad variety of fetal, placental, and maternal conditions. Because the differential diagnosis of fetal hydrops is extensive and potentially unwieldy (often described as a 'laundry list'), a workable approach is required in order to diagnose, treat, and/or manage the underlying disorder responsible for its presentation. The symposium director is Dr. Michael J. Caplan of the Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC.

**Needs Assessment**

Nonimmune fetal hydrops (NIFH) is a pathophysiologic process that remains largely enigmatic in perinatal medicine and pathology. With an estimated incidence of 1 in 3,000 pregnancies (0.03%), it is a relatively rare yet extremely difficult problem to approach because of its multifactorial etiology, with an often bewildering array of underlying fetal, placental, and maternal disorders. Despite some improvements in diagnosis and management over the past several years, NIFH continues to be associated with a substantial mortality rate. Furthermore, the most commonly cited comprehensive review on the subject dates back over 2 decades, and subsequent articles on the subject have suffered from the limitations of single case reports (emphasizing a particular single cause), small sample sizes, series of patients that were victims of scientific bias, and contradictory data. A current, up-to-date review of this subject will provide both a deeper knowledge base regarding the pathophysiology of NIFH and a wider choice of potential therapeutic interventions for at least some causes. This symposium will present an integrated and coordinated multidisciplinary strategy for identifying and treating the underlying conditions responsible for NIFH and will also illustrate how the pediatric/perinatal pathologist's active role may enhance the overall understanding of this process and contribute to improved fetal outcomes in multidisciplinary management.

**Overall Program Objectives**

Upon completion of this symposium, participants should be able to:

1. Describe the basic mechanisms involved in the pathogenesis of NIFH.
2. List the major diagnostic categories of NIFH and relate them to a pathophysiologic mechanism, if known.
3. Apply the above objectives to their practice, in order to formulate a logical clinical diagnostic and therapeutic approach to the fetus with NIFH, or to confirm a suspected clinical diagnosis in the context of the perinatal autopsy.

**Planner and Faculty Disclosure**

As a sponsor accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Society for Pediatric Pathology (SPP) must ensure balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all its individually or jointly sponsored educational activities. All planners and faculty (speakers, authors and presenters) who participate in the planning and execution of an SPP educational activity are

required to disclose whether they or their spouse/partner have any significant financial interest or other relationship (1) with the manufacturer(s) of any commercial product(s) and/or provider(s) of commercial services discussed in an educational presentation and (2) with any commercial supporters of the activity. (A “significant financial interest or other relationship” can include such things as grants or research support, status as an employee, consultant, major stock holder, member of speakers bureau, etc.) This applies to current relationships as well as any within the past twelve months. The intent of this disclosure is not to prevent a faculty member with a significant financial or other relationship from making a presentation. Disclosure is required so that planners may reasonably decide whether to make adjustments in the program and its faculty, and so that participants in the activity may formulate their own judgments as to whether the faculty member’s interests or relationships influenced the presentation with regard to exposition or conclusion. The SPP has also required that faculty disclose any products that are not labeled for the use under discussion and that the disclosure be made to the audience at the time of presentation.

All planners and faculty who participate in the planning and execution of an SPP educational activity have been informed of the SPP Policy on Disclosure of Relevant Conflicts of Interest. Faculty who have disclosed industry relationships have been counseled, in writing, of the necessity to deliver their presentations in a manner free of commercial bias. Written notification is made, in accordance with SPP Policy, to resolve any relevant conflicts of interest.

## **CERTIFICATE OF CME/SAM CREDIT OR PARTICIPATION**

### **Accreditation Statement**

The Society for Pediatric Pathology is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

### **AMA Credit Designation Statement**

The Society for Pediatric Pathology designates this live activity for a maximum of **3.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>**. Physicians should only claim the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### **International Physicians**

The American Medical Association has determined that physicians not licensed in the US who participate in this CME activity are eligible for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>*.

### **Health Professionals**

Health Professional participants (including residents and fellows-in-training) may claim hours to receive a Certificate of Participation for an activity designated for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>*.

### **CME Credits**

Certificates of continuing medical education *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>* will be issued through the Society for Pediatric Pathology. CME credits will only be awarded after completion of an online evaluation form.

### **Self-Assessment Module Credits**

The SPP is accredited by the American Board of Pathology to offer Self-Assessment Module (SAM) credits for the purpose of meeting the American Board of Pathology requirements for Maintenance of

Certification. Registrants must take and pass the post-test in order to claim SAMs credit(s). SAM credits are offered for the fall meeting and perinatal symposia only.