Center for Hypertension Research Seminar

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Hypertension during Pregnancy: Inflammation and Autoantibodies

Friday, December 16, 2016
1:00 PM  283 EMRB

Dr. Babbette LaMarca, is a Professor of Pharmacology, Physiology and OB/GYN and is the Thesis Director, Maternal Fetal Medicine Fellowship Program at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Her work is focused on immune mechanisms that contribute to the pathogenesis of preeclampsia, which is defined as new-onset hypertension during pregnancy. More specifically her research focuses on the interactions between lymphocytes and agonistic autoantibodies to the angiotensin II type I receptor (AT1-AA) in the pathophysiology of hypertension in response to placental ischemia. She received her Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology in 2004 and began leading the research and masters program for Maternal Fetal Medicine in OB/Gyn in 2006. Dr. LaMarca combines basic science with clinical research to investigate how inflammation mediates renal and placental dysfunction leading to hypertension during pregnancy. She currently holds an RO1 from NIH/NICHD (2011-2021) and 2 pharmaceutical grants for investigating immune mechanisms leading to hypertension during pregnancy, is a co-investigator on a second RO1 and a PPG held in Physiology. Since completing her training in 2004, she has published 92 manuscripts with 58 being first or senior author. Her research in preeclampsia has been continually funded by the American Heart Association (AHA) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and various pharmaceutical companies since 2005, totaling to date over $3,750,000.00 research dollars.