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FOR THE GOOD HEALTH OF NEVADA

Fertility Forum Offers Mother Nature a Little Help

Arlee Fisher, medical school information April 17, 1996

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

In response to increased requests for infertility information, the University of Nevada School of Medicine is holding its first summer lecture series called Forums on Fertility. The first Forum is open to the public and free of charge. It will be held Saturday, May 4, 1996 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the sixth floor south auditorium, 2040 W. Charleston Blvd.

"We get phone calls all the time from people who aren't sure whether they suffer from infertility, don't know where to turn for help and are uninformed about treatment options," says Rachel A. McConnell, M.D., assistant professor and chief of the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility. "We hope these forums will be the first step in getting some of these questions answered."

Dr. McConnell and Assistant Professor Mark F. Severino, M.D., will be the forum's keynote speakers. They will cover the causes of infertility and treatments available, including in vitro fertilization and other assisted reproductive technologies.

In addition to the clinical aspects of infertility, there are many psychological factors and concerns. Dr. Marlene Zychowicz, a local psychologist, will discuss coping with infertility and will launch a much-needed support group. "We feel it is particularly important to have the first forum in early May because the time just before Mother's Day can be extremely painful for women who have been unable to conceive," says Zychowicz.

Forum attendees will also learn about in-state egg donor programs and sperm selection and preservation possibilities through the laboratory's sperm bank, the first in Nevada.

Call 383-2271 for prior registration.