Preface
Obstetric and Gynecologic Emergencies

Patients of all ages frequently present to the emergency department with a variety of gynecologic and obstetric complaints. These complaints can range in severity from completely benign (estrogen-withdrawal vaginal bleeding in the neonate) to potentially catastrophic (maternal cardiac arrest). Obstetric emergencies in particular can be among the most stressful events an emergency physician will face in their entire career as two lives are at stake. This issue covers the spectrum of problems encountered throughout all trimesters of pregnancy as well as the postpartum period. Gynecologic complaints across all stages of a woman’s life are discussed, including the less commonly covered geriatric postmenopausal period. Articles reviewing complications of assisted reproductive technology and up-to-date management of sexually transmitted diseases for both female and male patients are also presented.

This issue is written for emergency physicians in all practice settings. Obstetric and gynecologic support services vary widely between different facilities, and emergency physicians must be prepared to initially manage any patient with a gynecologic or obstetric emergency who walks through the door. It is our hope that this issue provides useful information for daily practice as well as preparation for the rarely encountered and potentially life-threatening events.

It has been an honor to serve as guest editors for this Emergency Medicine Clinics of North America issue, and we are grateful to Dr Amal Mattu for the opportunity. We would also like to thank each of the authors for their contributions to this issue, as well as Casey Potter and the Elsevier editorial team for their guidance and
support. We hope you enjoy this issue of *Emergency Medicine Clinics of North America* Gynecologic and Obstetric Emergencies!

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