



The Brooklyn Hospital Center

SUMMER 2024

# Keeping Brooklyn Healthy

How to make an  
OB/GYN appointment ▶

All about having  
your baby ▶

Midwifery, sonograms,  
Pre- & postpartum care ▶

Gynecology, family,  
planning and more ▶

**Brooklyn Women,  
we've got you covered**

OB/GYN care for  
every stage of your life





**Erroll I. Byer, Jr., MD**

## MESSAGE FROM TBHC'S CHAIR OF OB/GYN

# Family-Friendly, Safe Care for Women

Welcome to TBHC's Department of OB/GYN. We take care of women and their health at every age and in every stage of their life. Every single one of our staff members strives to provide culturally sensitive, compassionate care to our diverse patient population.

We have been a leader in obstetrical care in Brooklyn since 1945. We offer the full spectrum of obstetric services for typical and high-risk pregnancies, from prenatal care, through labor and delivery to postpartum care. We have some of the most qualified obstetricians in Brooklyn and the medical staff, services and equipment you need for a perfect delivery experience. Our skilled staff brings thousands of babies into the world each year; those deliveries are conducted in state-of-the-art labor and delivery suites. Most importantly, we have an excellent track record for maternal safety with a special emphasis on sophisticated screening protocols for racial disparities in maternal care.

We also offer well-woman and gynecological care, including family planning, fertility evaluations, access to important gynecological screenings, and care for menopausal and postmenopausal women. When conditions arise that need treatment, we are here to assess and provide individualized plans. We perform over 1,200 gynecological surgical procedures annually, many of which include advanced laparoscopy and robotic surgery. We offer subspecialties in urogynecology (the evaluation and treatment of non-cancerous conditions concerning the female reproductive system) and gynecologic oncology (cancers pertaining to the female reproductive system, such as cervical cancer or uterine cancer). Patients receiving their gynecological care here also have seamless access to the wide breadth of TBHC's medical and surgical specialties and subspecialties should the need arise for further referrals or consults.

As an OB/GYN patient at TBHC, you can be certain that you are getting expert care, right in the heart of Downtown/Fort Greene Brooklyn. We are committed to "Keeping Brooklyn Women Healthy."



**TBHC recently updated their maternity rooms with refreshed bathrooms, new furniture and window treatments. All of our maternity rooms are private singles and many overlook beautiful Fort Greene Park, which is located right next door to the hospital!**

**How to Make an OB/GYN Appointment.** The easiest way is to scan this QR code and go to MyChart. Even if you don't have an account with TBHC, you can use our open scheduling platform by clicking on "Schedule an Appointment" and then the OB/GYN specialist you need to see. If you prefer the phone, call 1.833.TBHC.NOW (833.824.2669) for more help.



## MEET TBHC'S OB/GYN PROVIDERS



**Errol I. Byer, Jr., MD**  
Chair, Obstetrics & Gynecology;  
Program Director,  
Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Residency Program



**Bahar Bybordi, MD**  
Attending,  
Obstetrics & Gynecology



**Caitlin Carr, MD**  
Attending,  
Gynecology Oncology



**Juana Cuevas, MD**  
Attending,  
Obstetrics & Gynecology;  
Associate Program Director,  
Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Residency Program



**Natasha Fievre, MD**  
Director, Ambulatory  
Women's Health  
Services



**Michael Moretti, MD**  
Director, Obstetrics;  
Maternal-Fetal Medicine  
Specialist, Obstetrics &  
Gynecology



**Kannan  
Muralikrishnan, MD**  
Attending,  
Obstetrics & Gynecology



**George Noumi, MD**  
Attending,  
Obstetrics & Gynecology



**Neil Patel, MD**  
Attending,  
Obstetrics & Gynecology



**Dennis  
Radoshkevich, MD**  
Attending,  
Obstetrics & Gynecology



**Kristen Zeligs, MD**  
Chief,  
Gynecology Oncology;  
Attending,  
Obstetrics & Gynecology



**Yvette  
Byer-Henry, CNM**  
Certified Nurse Midwife,  
Obstetrics & Gynecology



**Mimi Maulella, CNM**  
Certified Nurse Midwife,  
Obstetrics & Gynecology

Not Shown:

**Kelley Halstead, MD**  
Attending,  
Obstetrics & Gynecology

**Bintou Berete, PA**  
Physician Assistant,  
Obstetrics & Gynecology

**Amy Rosenthal, CNM**  
Certified Nurse Midwife,  
Obstetrics & Gynecolog

## ONE FAMILY'S EXPERIENCE OB/GYN (and Pediatric) Care, right in the neighborhood

"Kelvin is our first child and my wife wanted to deliver at a hospital close to home," says William Mandeville. "I did some research and discovered that The Brooklyn Hospital Center (which was right across from our home), had all the modern equipment and quality care with private maternity rooms. After hearing recommendations from trusted family and friends, we went with TBHC to deliver our baby and it proved to be the right choice.

Our experience at TBHC for the delivery was nothing short of exceptional. The entire team provided exemplary care, demonstrating expertise and a genuine concern for my wife, Evelina, and our baby's well-being. I really appreciated everyone's friendly demeanor and the time they took to address all of our concerns, even the admittedly silly ones. The entire process felt personalized and supportive.

I would confidently choose TBHC again as my family continues to grow. In fact, we now bring our baby, Kelvin, to the Pediatrics Department, and are as equally happy with that care!"



# Make your baby a TBHC baby: Caring staff, comfortable rooms, and the equipment and know-how for anything that comes up.

## For many young families, the first experience with regular medical care begins with having a baby.

The Brooklyn Hospital Center (TBHC) has been taking care of women and families since 1845 and we are not about to stop now! We consider it a privilege to provide quality, convenient obstetric care to our community. The hospital is conveniently located near Downtown Brooklyn and is accessible to a range of public transportation options for all of North and Central Brooklyn and beyond.

Whether this is your first baby or you are continuing to build your family, our expert physicians and clinical staff are here to help you every step of the way.

TBHC's capable and compassionate staff has deep experience with both typical and high-risk pregnancies. We bring thousands of babies into the world each year. We have the medical staff, services and equipment you need for a safe and satisfying delivery experience, including:

- Some of the most qualified obstetricians in Brooklyn.

(Shown here, Dr. Juana Cuevas, OB/GYN, delivering a baby in a birthing room.)

- A family-friendly philosophy that provides amenities and accommodations for all your faith- and culturally based needs. Your partner and/or doula are welcome!
- Birthing rooms with views of Fort Greene Park and

space for your birth support team to settle in comfortably. All are large, tastefully decorated and can convert into delivery rooms, if necessary.

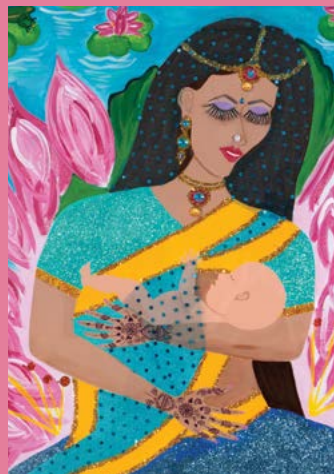
- Our experienced maternity nurses are here to help you throughout your delivery, as well as later when you ease into life with your infant.
- Excellent and above-the-national averages for maternal safety with a special program to screen for racial disparities in maternal care.
- Thoughtful touches, such as a celebratory meal for the first after-delivery dinner!



Come check us out! Visit [tbh.org/BrooklynOBGYN](https://tbh.org/BrooklynOBGYN) for a virtual tour of all our labor, delivery and maternity facilities from the convenience of your own home. Or call 718.250.8308 to schedule an in-person tour.

## The Talented OB Nurses Behind The Beautiful Art on the 3M Unit

If you've been on TBHC's maternity floor, you will remember the extraordinary artwork because they are simply unforgettable. Did you know that our very own OB nurses created them? Shout out to Marvel Collazos, RN, Maria Cardenas, RN, and Leonie Harry, RN, whose love for their patients shine through this work.



## able birthing rooms, may arise.

**When things get complicated, you can also count on TBHC and their top-notch obstetrics (and pediatric!) team.** TBHC offers the advantages of being a community, neighborhood hospital that also has a full range of high-tech services, including:

- High-risk fetal-maternal medicine specialists, who are here to help you if the complications start before your delivery or if you present as a high-risk case. They will guide your care and birth plan with the help of testing to create a pathway to a safe, successful delivery.
- Fetal testing and prenatal screenings include ultrasound and transabdominal and transvaginal ultrasound, utero-placental and fetal placental Doppler for high-risk pregnancies, amniocentesis, chorionic villus sampling (CVS), and fetal echocardiogram, among others.
- Reproductive counseling, which includes HIV counseling and care, as well as genetic testing specialists.
- A roster of pediatric subspecialists are able to work on your case in the event testing shows some concerns with the baby. These specialists will become part of the team during your pregnancy and after, and might include pediatric cardiologists, endocrinologists, gastroenterologists, hematologists, HIV/AIDS specialists, nephrologists, neurologists, pulmonologists, rheumatologists, and pediatric surgeons.
- TBHC has 10 state-of-the-art labor and delivery suites, and birthing rooms that quickly convert into delivery rooms for emergency caesarean sections. *(Shown here, Dr. Neil Patel, OB/GYN, performing a caesarean section.)*



If there are issues or the baby is premature, TBHC has a Level-3 perinatal care center/neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Our NICU team offers state-of-the-art and reliable care for these babies with cutting-edge equipment, fellowship-trained physicians and a specialized nursing staff.

Health-challenged babies, especially those born under three pounds, require the technology and expertise available only in a Level-3 NICU. However, TBHC's NICU is more than just a center of expertise, but also a second home where parents, grandparents and siblings are cared for, as well, in a family-first environment.



# Before and After Your Delivery

**Obstetric care is not just about the delivery.** Much of your obstetric journey takes place in the nine months before your delivery at your prenatal appointments. Our comprehensive prenatal care includes regular visits, wellness and nutritional guidance, education and appropriate testing, and ultrasounds and screenings for typical and high-risk pregnancies. *(Shown below, Dr. Michael Moretti, our maternal-fetal medicine specialist, conducting an ultrasound).*



We aim to make your prenatal care convenient. Choose to see your provider for care at either: Physicians Pavilion, 86 Saint Felix Street; Women's Health Center, at the main hospital at 121 DeKalb Avenue; LaProvidencia Family Health Center, 1280 DeKalb Avenue; or Williamsburg Family Health Center, 99 Division Avenue. *(Shown above, to the left is Dr. Natasha Fievre, OB/GYN, seeing a patient at the Physicians Pavilion).*

**The ability to access a midwife is one of the many perks of prenatal care at TBHC.** Midwifery has a long and illustrious history and in its current, modern form, provides a more holistic approach to women's care, during pregnancy and at other times. Midwives tend to spend more time with patients and delve deeper into their total well being. *(Shown above, to the right, Yvette Byer-Henry, CNM, a TBHC midwife, during a regular, prenatal visit).*



Today's modern certified nurse-midwives (CNM) are advanced practice registered nurses who have graduated from a master's-level nurse-midwifery education program and are licensed by New York State.

Within the TBHC obstetric program, midwives take care of women throughout their pregnancy and during the postpartum period and work closely with the delivering physicians. Our midwives also see women of all ages, and many patients continue to see their midwives for well-woman care.

**Congratulations, you had a baby!** Welcome to 3M, our mother-baby unit. Here you will enjoy newly spruced up, private rooms, many with views of Fort Greene Park (see page 2), original art (see bottom of pages 4 and 5), and, of course, excellent care from our maternity nurses. On 3M, you will learn how to take care of yourself and your baby. If you are breastfeeding, there are rooming-in options and access to a lactation consultant.

While you are here, your baby is officially a patient of our excellent pediatric department. Once you and your baby are discharged, you can continue your TBHC journey with primary pediatric care at several convenient locations. Your child's primary care will be backed up by pediatric subspecialists, a pediatric emergency room, pediatric inpatient unit, a pediatric intensive care unit, and an adolescent care service. For more information, [tbh.org/BrooklynPediatrics](http://tbh.org/BrooklynPediatrics).

And you can continue with your postpartum visits and then lifelong gynecologic care from our terrific gynecologic team (see next page).

# Gynecological Care for Every Stage, Every Age

TBHC offers comprehensive gynecological care of the utmost quality in Downtown Brooklyn. Our staff is dedicated to serving our patients with compassionate, individualized, convenient and culturally sensitive care at every stage and every age of a woman's life. TBHC offers gynecologists who deliver compassionate and expert specialized care.

## Every adult woman needs to care for her reproductive health, even

those who have no interest in becoming a parent or for whom childbearing is way off or way behind them. To that end, in the arena of "well care," TBHC's gynecology program provides:

- Access to and management of all birth control methods.
- Fertility evaluation and/or egg cryopreservation for those women seeking to delay their families or for those who are undergoing medical treatments that may affect fertility.
- Full range of gynecological cancer screenings. The division also works closely with TBHC radiologists to help patients access breast cancer screenings and diagnostic procedures, surgeries and treatments.



- Digital mammography and ultrasound.
- Management of menopause and post-menopause. (*Shown below, Dr. Caitlin Carr, OB/GYN, consulting with a patient.*)
- Seamless access to the breadth of TBHC's medical and surgical specialties and subspecialties.

All gynecological well care is provided at the Physicians Pavilion (86 Saint Felix Street, Fort Greene), the Women's Health Center (main hospital at 121 DeKalb Avenue),

LaProvidencia Family Health Center (1280 DeKalb Avenue, Bushwick), Williamsburg Family Health Center (99 Division Avenue), and BHMA Fulton Fall (514 Fulton Street, Downtown Brooklyn).

## The gynecology program treats all gynecological conditions. Highlights include:

- Full range of diagnostic procedures such as colposcopy, LEEP, pelvic ultrasound and pelvic laparoscopy.
- Full range of minimally invasive surgeries to treat gynecological cancers, including the most advanced robotic surgeries. (*Shown above, Dr. Kristen Zeligs, OB/GYN, with the "robot".*)
- Using medication, management, and minimally invasive, laparoscopic and robotic surgeries, our gynecologists also diagnose and treat non-cancerous conditions, such as fibroids, endometriosis, ectopic pregnancies, polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), sexually transmitted diseases and menstrual disorders.
- Urogynecological care includes cystocele repair, sling procedures, radical pelvic surgery, pelvic floor reconstruction, and hysterectomy (partial and full, including minimally invasive and robotic procedures).

As always, your care is backed up by the full continuum of specialists and subspecialists at TBHC, who work in collaboration with your gynecologists.



**All contraceptive methods are available at TBHC, including birth control pills, implants, injectables, patches, vaginal rings, IUDs (intra-uterine devices), condoms, and male and female sterilization. Our OB/GYNs will gladly talk through your options to come up with a plan that is best for you, and to arrange access to your chosen method.**



For more information  
on OB/GYN at TBHC



## Special Resources for Pregnant Women and Mothers in Need

Are you pregnant but do not have health insurance or are only covered partially by health insurance? Are you in need of help feeding yourself and/or your child? TBHC can help you access two excellent resources.

**The Prenatal Care Services Program** at TBHC offers free comprehensive prenatal care from the beginning of pregnancy up until two months after delivery. There are no immigration requirements. There is no age limit and minimal documentation is needed.

Services for qualified women include:

- Medical care, delivery, sonograms and laboratory tests
- Information on staying healthy during pregnancy
- Medications, vitamins and hospital care for mother and child
- Dental, nutrition, Visiting Nurse Services, free pregnancy test
- HIV and genetic counseling
- Childbirth classes and social services support
- Baby's health care for a year after birth



You may also be eligible for the **Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program Centers**, which provide supplemental nutrition, education and support to pregnant women, breastfeeding women, postpartum women, and caregivers of infants and children up to age five. TBHC operates seven facilities throughout Brooklyn.

To learn more about both these programs, please visit [tbh.org/BrooklynObstetrics](http://tbh.org/BrooklynObstetrics).