Jacques Abramowicz, MD, Professor – largely focuses on the bioeffects and safety of ultrasound, specifically in obstetrics. He is also involved in characterization of ovarian masses with the International Ovarian Tumor Analysis group. Together with Dr. Barua (Rush University), Dr. Abramowicz also uses ultrasound to characterize early ovarian cancer in a unique ovarian cancer model; the egg-laying chicken, which is the only animal that develops spontaneous ovarian cancer similar in histology, metastatic spread and serum antigens to human cancer. He and Dr. Barua have also described the use of ultrasound contrast agents, targeted to antigens or factors expressed by the tumor.

Julie Chor, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor – is a gynecologist who specializes in family planning and contraceptive counseling. Dr. Chor currently serves as the primary investigator on several studies that examine the impact of doulas (nonmedical labor coaches who offer emotional and informational support) on different aspects of pregnancy. In the past, she has studied reproductive health experiences of women with cardiovascular disease and other medical conditions.

Nathaniel Lloyd Crump, Jr., MD, Associate Professor – is a gynecologist and the director of the Fibroid Treatment Program. In association with different departments at UCM, Dr. Crump investigates interdisciplinary, conservative treatments for uterine fibroids. His current research primarily involves radio-frequency volumetric thermal ablation of fibroids by laparoscopy and office minimally invasive surgical procedures for abnormal bleeding and fibroids.

Melissa Gilliam MD, MPH, Ellen H. Block Professor of Health Justice – Dr. Gilliam’s research focuses on the sexual and reproductive health and education of adolescents in the United States and the Global South. In 2012, Dr. Gilliam established The Center for Interdisciplinary Inquiry and Innovation in Sexual and Reproductive Health (Ci3), an interdisciplinary research center. Ci3 uses games, storytelling, and human-centered design approaches to address large-scale issues related to health justice: the treatment of female sexuality in the context of aging, cancer and other diseases, problems related to health justice: the treatment of female sexuality in the context of aging, cancer and other diseases, and the health of populations living in poverty. Dr. Gilliam directs the Program in Integrative Sexual Medicine, including the Bionic Breast Project and WomanLab, and the South Side Health and Vitality Studies, including CommunityRx, MAPScorps and Feed1st.

Sadia Haider, MD, MPH, Associate Professor – is a health services researcher whose work focuses on decreasing reproductive health disparities for postpartum women, adolescents, and other underserved populations. She has several funded studies that utilize an interdisciplinary approach to test innovative strategies which aim to improve contraception provision to postpartum women. Additionally, Dr. Haider has ongoing research efforts focused on the unique needs for and barriers to contraception and sexual health for HIV-vulnerable women and sexual minority women.

Hilary Kenny, PhD, Assistant Professor – is co-director of the Ovarian Cancer Research Program. She primarily focuses on the role of the tumor microenvironment in early ovarian cancer metastasis. To examine the molecular mechanisms involved in this process, she developed a 3D organotypic culture system that reconstructs the peritoneal cavity lining in vitro. This system was adapted for quantitative high throughput screening and has recently been customized to identify compounds that inhibit a rare chemoresistant ovarian cancer stem cell population and therapeutically synergize with commonly used chemotherapy agents.

Ernst Lengyel, MD, PhD, Professor – leads the ovarian cancer research lab in the Department of Ob/Gyn. His research group utilizes molecular biology techniques, animal models, and patient datasets to understand the important steps in ovarian cancer progression and metastasis. This knowledge is then used to develop novel therapies for ovarian cancer patients. He has an ovarian cancer database that prospectively follows all ovarian cancer patients treated at the University of Chicago (http://obg.bsd.uchicago.edu/FacultyResearch/lengyellab.htm).

Stacy Lindau, MD, MA, Professor – conducts human-level, community-engaged research in two main fields on problems related to health justice: the treatment of female sexuality in the context of aging, cancer and other diseases, and the health of populations living in poverty. Dr. Lindau directs the Program in Integrative Sexual Medicine, including the Bionic Breast Project and WomanLab, and the South Side Health and Vitality Studies, including CommunityRx, MAPScorps and Feed1st.

Sarosh Rana, MD, Professor – is a maternal fetal medicine specialist whose research focuses on the pathogenesis of preeclampsia, a common hypertensive disorder of pregnancy. She is particularly interested in elucidating the role of angiogenic biomarkers in the prediction of adverse maternal and fetal outcomes and understanding mechanisms of disease.

Iris Romero, MD, MS, Associate Professor – is a general obstetrician gynecologist whose research focus is cancer prevention. One of her approaches is to identify anti-cancer effects of medications that are widely used for non-cancer indications. For example her group has done extensive work on repurposing metformin as cancer therapeutic. A second, focus of her work is identifying and treating high-risk groups through hereditary cancer genetics.