

Eponyms and Names in Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Third Edition

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Third Edition

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About the Author

Tom Baskett was born during the Second World War in Belfast, Northern Ireland. He spent most of the first weeks of his life in a cot under a heavy dining room table during the air raids on the Belfast shipyards. He was later reassured they were not aiming specifically at him – thereby avoiding a diagnosis of neonatal post-traumatic stress disorder. His subsequent evacuation to the country made him an unwitting pioneer of perinatal outreach programmes.

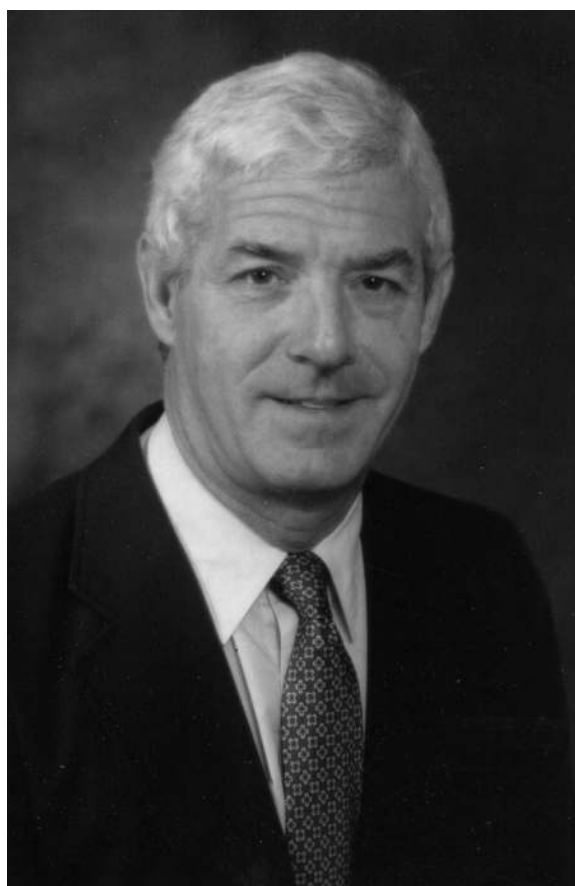
Educated at Belfast Royal Academy and the Queen's University of Belfast, he received his school colours for rugby and athletics but no academic distinction. He claims that under modern admission criteria he would never gain entry to medical school; most people agree with him.

He qualified in medicine in 1964 and did six years postgraduate training in surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology and some general practice in Northern Ireland. He worked at the Royal Victoria, Royal Maternity and Belfast City hospitals.

As one of the three main export groups from Ireland – racehorses, nurses and doctors – he emigrated to Canada in 1970. He spent 10 years in Winnipeg and from there acted as a consultant in obstetrics and gynaecology to the Central Canadian Arctic, which he visited regularly. In 1980 he moved to Halifax.

In addition to his day and night job he has served as president of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada and the Canadian Gynaecological Society, examiner in obstetrics and gynaecology for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and editor-in-chief of the *Journal of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada*.

Like grey hair, his interest in medical history has grown insidiously over the years. In 1997 he



completed the Diploma in the History of Medicine from the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London (DHMSA) and was awarded the Maccabean Prize and the Osler Medal. He was the 2008 History Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

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Thomas F. Baskett
Frontmatter
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Preface

Despite misguided attempts to discourage them, eponyms continue to enrich the language and literature of medicine. Few specialties have a longer or richer eponymous background than obstetrics and gynaecology. Eponyms add a human side to an increasingly technical profession in which both the providers and recipients of medical care continue to crave the human touch and are diminished by its absence. They also provide a practical shorthand for some complex clinical manoeuvres, syndromes and procedures. Eponyms represent the tradition and language of a specialty and acknowledge the contribution of pioneers. The purpose of this collection is to help perpetuate the names and provide an introductory profile of some of the founders in whose steps we follow. I have not confined myself to eponyms but have included other notable names in the development of the specialty. I have also added several from other specialties whose contributions are relevant to obstetrics and gynaecology.

In each case biographical data are provided and the eponym or work for which they are known is outlined with context. I have included quotations from the authors' original work that, in addition to the entertaining language of the different eras, provide a glimpse into their rationale and humanity. Where available, the original and related references are provided. I have included a bibliography of linked references to assist the reader wanting more detailed information on individual subjects. Since the first

edition was published in 1996 I have added 80 names, along with additional information and images for the entries in the first two editions. There are now 391 names from 34 countries.

My own exposure to eponyms began when I was a medical student in the 1960s. In Hamilton Bailey's classic, *Demonstrations of Physical Signs in Clinical Surgery*, there were small footnotes describing some of the eponymous characters, which piqued my interest. It was not uncommon for consultants at ward rounds to ask, 'Who was so and so?' Legend around oral examination tactics had it that, towards the end of the oral, if you were asked about an eponym, you had either passed very well or failed utterly – either way it was better to go out with one's eponymous guns blazing!

A positive aspect of the study of eponymy is that it inevitably leads to a greater understanding of the evolution and relevance of the associated clinical event and is therefore both educational and entertaining, thereby fulfilling my favourite quote from Marshall McLuhan, the Canadian philosopher and sociologist: 'Anyone who tries to make a distinction between education and entertainment doesn't know the first thing about either'. I hope this third and final edition will be both.

T.F. Baskett
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Acknowledgements

The lifeblood of a work of this nature is the library and I am indebted to the libraries that I have used over the past 30 years: the WK Kellogg Health Sciences Library, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia; the Bay Jacobs History Library of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), Washington DC; the United States National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, Maryland and four libraries in London: the British Library; the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG); the Royal Society of Medicine and the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine. In particular, I wish to acknowledge the assistance of Patricia Want, former Librarian at the RCOG and her successor, Lucy Reid. Debra Scarborough, History Librarian and Archivist at the ACOG History Library, has been extremely helpful in tracing biographical information from American sources. I am most grateful for her gracious co-operation and mastery of the archives. My thanks go to Dr Fritz Nagele of the University of Vienna, who guided me on a trip to historical sources in Vienna and also translated many papers.

A number of the subjects in this book kindly met my requests for information and photographs of themselves: DJS Barker, KH Betke, GC Bird, EH Bishop, R Caldeyro-Barcia, CA Clarke, RRA Coombs, JKW Ferguson, GM Filshie, EA Friedman, EHG Hon, JF Hulka, E Kleihauer, KE Krantz, GC Liggins, J Lippes, VF Marshall, WA McRoberts, CL Mendelson, K O'Driscoll, RH Philpott, MS Robson, CH Rodeck, A Rubin, E Saling and WA Zavanelli, I thank them for their courteous co-operation. Mrs Eva Malmström wrote most generously and provided me with details and a photograph of her late husband, Tage Malmström.

Many colleagues have generously responded to my enquiries about various subjects in this work: Dr S MacMillan, Aberdeen (Dugald Baird and Alexander Gordon); Dr Barbara Thompson, Aberdeen (Dugald Baird); Dr A Vacca, Brisbane (Geoffrey Bird); Dr C Ustun, Bornova, Turkey (Hulusi Behçet); Dr E Saling, Berlin (Erich Bracht and Hans Hinselmann); Dr RH Tosh, Nashville, Tennessee (John Burch); Dr R Kennison, Boston and Mr R Krupinski, Ann Arbor (Emma Call); Ms B Hewitt, Parkville, Australia (Kate Campbell); Dr AH Johnston, San Francisco (Leonid Cherney); Dr JW Goodwin, Toronto (Geoffrey Dawes); Dr D Brown, Houston, Texas (Herman Gardner); Dr RF Zacharin, Victoria, Australia (Reg and Catherine Hamlin); Dr AP Goldbloom, Toronto (Alfred Hart); Dr SW Campbell and Mr Bullington, Chicago and Dr MA Schellpfeffer, Kenosha, Wisconsin (Sproat Heaney); Dr JB Roche, Sydney (Ed Hon); Dr DH Morse, Los Angeles (Arnold Kegel); Professor JHM Pinkerton, Belfast (Jacques Kergaradec); Sir Graham Liggins, Auckland (William Liley); Dr Aris Antsaklis, Athens (Konstantinos Logothetopoulos); Professor P Bergsjø, Bergen and Professor O Larsen, Oslo (Jørgen Løvset); Dr TF Magovern, Washington DC (Andrew Marchetti); Dr ED Vaughan, New York (Victor Marshall); Dr A Mickal, New Orleans (Milton McCall); Dr S Nargolkar, Pune (Krishna Menon and Vithal Shirodkar); Dr AH Auffses, New York (Alexis Moschcowitz); Dr AD Browne, Dr L Lunney and M O'Doherty, Dublin (William Neville); Dr Benson Harer, California (Armand Pereyra); Dr E Beer, Omegna, Italy (Erico Sertoli); Dr E Vizza, Rome (Pier Spinelli); Dr A Kernbauer, Graz, Austria (Richard von Steinbüchel); Dr PJ Taylor, Vancouver (Patrick Steptoe); Ms L Westrick, Augusta, Georgia (Richard Torpin);

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