

Press Release

VA Augusta Health Care System Public Affairs Offic 1Freedom Way, Augusta, GA 30904 706-733-0188 Ext. 31733 vhaugpublicaffairs@va.gov

Date: Feb. 15, 2024

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: (706) 733-0188 ext. 31733

vhaaugpublicaffairs@va.gov

Feb. 23: VA Augusta to host cardio-obstetrics presentation for women Veterans

Maternity care is part of the expanding women's health services available to women Veterans, the fastest-growing VA Augusta patient population

AUGUSTA, Ga. — In honor of American Heart Health Month, the <u>Women Veterans Program</u> at <u>VA Augusta Health Care System</u> will host a cardio-obstetrics presentation at 1 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23, at its Uptown Campus auditorium (Room 3B-111) at 1 Freedom Way in Augusta. Presenting on the topic of the interactions between heart health and maternity care will be <u>Dr. Gyanendra Sharma</u>, Wellstar MCG Health cardiologist.

"Every February, the VA, along with the American Heart Association "Goes Red" to bring awareness to heart disease among women. Heart disease is the leading cause of maternal death in the U.S.," said Dr. Jennifer Woodley, Women Veterans Program Manager for VA Augusta. "We're learning so much about how pregnancy-induced cardiac complications can impact long-term heart health in women. Dr. Sharma has decades of experience and research in cardiology, and his insights can benefit local Veteran women and those who care for them."

Women Veterans make up the fastest-growing patient population at VA Augusta, which offers comprehensive care to its female patients, including the following services:

- Primary care
- Gynecology
- Maternity care, childbirth education classes, and postpartum support
- Ultrasounds and mammograms
- Mental health care and counseling
- Lifestyle wellness services

Media seeking information or an interview regarding maternity care or VA Augusta's women's health services should contact Will Martin, Chief of Public Affairs, at William.Martin6@va.gov.