# Rebeca C. Martinez, MD, FACOG, ACEC: OB/GYN Education Leader at FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine

**Transforming Obstetric and Gynecological Care Through Education and Bioethics** 



**New York City, New York Jan 30, 2025 (**<u>Issuewire.com</u>) - Rebeca C. Martinez, MD, FACOG, ACEC, an esteemed obstetrician-gynecologist, is making significant strides in medical education and patient care as the Vice Chair of Education in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Assistant Clerkship Director for OB/GYN, and Associate Professor of OB/GYN at FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine (HWCOM) located in Miami, Florida. With a remarkable career spanning over three decades, Dr. Martinez combines her extensive clinical experience with a strong commitment to bioethics, ensuring that future generations of physicians are well-equipped to tackle the complexities of modern healthcare.

## **Early Influences and Commitment to Vulnerable Populations**

Dr. Martinez's journey into medicine began at the University of Miami, where she earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry and Religion in 1982. During her undergraduate years, she took her first bioethics classes, which would later play a pivotal role in her medical practice. Her exposure to the diverse and often underserved populations in Miami, particularly during her time in medical school at the University of Miami School of Medicine, solidified her commitment to making a difference in the lives of vulnerable patients.

At Jackson Memorial Hospital, Dr. Martinez witnessed the challenges faced by newly diagnosed HIV/AIDS patients and the influx of immigrants from Cuba and Haiti. This experience motivated her to pursue an OB/GYN residency at JMH, where she would develop her skills in both routine and high-risk obstetric care. The busy environment, with approximately 20,000 deliveries annually, provided her with invaluable training and insights into the importance of access to quality healthcare.

## A Career Built on Clinical Excellence and Community Engagement

After completing her residency, Dr. Martinez joined a private practice, where she further honed her skills in patient care and practice management. Working alongside respected local OB/GYNs, she gained insights into the importance of preventive care and the continuity of patient relationships. Her commitment to community service led her to become Co-President of the Planned Parenthood Miami Chapter, where she advocated for the medical needs of women whose healthcare requirements were often overlooked.

In addition to her clinical practice, Dr. Martinez helped found Femwell Group Health, a coalition of OB/GYNs aimed at improving healthcare delivery and reducing administrative burdens for small practices. Her passion for education and mentorship later brought her back to academia at the University of Miami, where she began teaching and inspiring future OB/GYNs.

#### A Renewed Focus on Education and Bioethics

Dr. Martinez's return to academia allowed her to reconnect with her passion for teaching and bioethics. She earned her Master's in Bioethics from Creighton University in 2012, followed by certification as a Clinical Bioethicist in 2019. These achievements reflect her deep commitment to integrating bioethics into clinical practice, ensuring that future physicians understand the ethical dimensions of patient care.

At FIU HWCOM, Dr. Martinez has expanded her role from voluntary faculty to a key player in the medical school curriculum, teaching across all four years and developing innovative courses in OB/GYN. Her dedication to student success is evident in her active involvement in mentoring and advising, leading to increased interest in OB/GYN residency programs among her students.

# **Leadership and Impact on Medical Education**

Dr. Martinez's leadership extends beyond the classroom. As Clinical Chief for GYN at the FIU Health Clinic and the Student Health Clinic, she oversees clinical operations while maintaining an active practice. Her commitment to patient care has earned her and her department high patient satisfaction ratings, underscoring her dedication to excellence in healthcare.

Recognizing the importance of continuous improvement in medical education, Dr. Martinez is currently pursuing a Master's in Health Education at Johns Hopkins University. This formal education complements her extensive teaching experience and reflects her belief that effective education is crucial for the advancement of healthcare.

## **Bridging Clinical Practice and Education**

Dr. Martinez views her diverse educational pursuits as interconnected, allowing her to provide comprehensive care to her patients while also educating future healthcare professionals. Her philosophy emphasizes the integration of bioethics into clinical practice, ensuring that physicians not only treat individual patients but also consider the broader implications of their care on populations.

Her goal is to improve medical care through her practice and the education of the next generation of physicians. By instilling the principles of bioethics in her students, Dr. Martinez aims to foster a culture of social justice within medicine, where healthcare providers are equipped to address the disparities that exist in the healthcare system.

#### A Vision for the Future

As Dr. Martinez continues to shape the future of obstetrics and gynecology education at FIU HWCOM, her vision remains clear: to empower future physicians with the knowledge and ethical grounding necessary to navigate the complexities of patient care. By combining clinical excellence with a commitment to bioethics, she is not only enhancing the education of her students but also improving the healthcare landscape for generations to come.

#### Conclusion

Dr. Rebeca C. Martinez, MD, FACOG, ACEC, is a trailblazer in obstetrics and gynecology education, dedicated to serving vulnerable populations, advocating for women's health, and promoting the integration of bioethics into clinical practice. Her leadership at FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine exemplifies her unwavering commitment to excellence in medical education and patient care.

### Learn More about Dr. Rebeca C. Martinez:

Through her findatopdoc profile,

https://www.findatopdoc.com/doctor/1019579-Rebecca-Martinez-OB-GYN-Obstetrician-Gynecologist or through FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, <a href="https://medicine.fiu.edu/about/faculty-and-staff/profiles/martinre.html">https://medicine.fiu.edu/about/faculty-and-staff/profiles/martinre.html</a>

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