Seeing Clearly Before Acting: Dr. Silvio Cavalcante on Cervical Cancer Prevention and Minimally Invasive Gynecology

Certified in colposcopy since 1990 and in gynecological endoscopy since 2019, the Rio de Janeiro physician has spent his career on two ends of the same goal: finding disease early and treating it with as little trauma as possible.


Obstetrícia
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Miami, Florida Nov 26, 2026 (Issuewire.com) - Cervical cancer is among the most preventable cancers affecting women, as long as precancerous changes are detected and treated in time. For Dr. Silvio Alex Marques Cavalcante, a Brazilian obstetrician-gynecologist based in Rio de Janeiro, that window of opportunity has shaped a significant part of his clinical life.

Cavalcante earned his Qualification Title in Colposcopy from the Brazilian Society of Cervical and Uterine Pathology and Colposcopy in December 1990, only months after finishing his residency. Colposcopy, a magnified examination of the cervix used to locate abnormal tissue, would remain a constant thread of his work.

Fifteen years dedicated to prevention

From 1993 to 2008, he worked at the outpatient clinic of CAARJ with a practice focused on the prevention of cervical disease, performing colposcopies, biopsies and diagnostic and therapeutic procedures aimed at detecting abnormalities at an early, treatable stage.

"In prevention, the most important patient is the one who feels perfectly fine," Cavalcante says. "If you look carefully during a routine visit, you can find something years before it would ever cause a symptom. That is the entire point of the work."

From open surgery to small incisions

As gynecological surgery evolved, so did his practice. Building on the surgical base of his residency at Andaraí Federal Hospital, he developed extensive experience in laparoscopy, which uses small incisions and a camera, and hysteroscopy, which allows the inside of the uterus to be treated without external incisions.

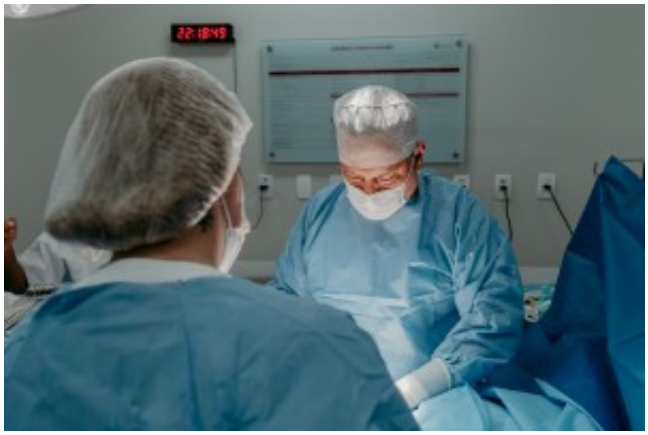
In December 2019, after more than twenty years of hands-on practice, he received the Area of Practice Title in Gynecological Endoscopy. Together with his colposcopy qualification and his FEBRASGO board certification, earned in 1991, his training has been validated by three Brazilian medical societies.

"The certificate came after twenty years of operating, not before. It recognized a path that had already been walked, case by case," he says. "When I started, many of these operations meant a large incision and a long recovery. Today, many patients go home much sooner. I made a point of learning every stage of that transformation."

Where the two paths meet

In recent years, his two areas of expertise have converged in the treatment of endometriosis and infertility, conditions that often require careful diagnosis and, in many cases, surgery, where minimally invasive approaches can make a real difference for women who hope to become pregnant.

Looking back, Cavalcante sees a single principle linking the colposcopy room to the operating room. "Both are about seeing clearly before you act, and then doing as little harm as possible," he says.



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