



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Perinatal care conference to be offered at USI on September 29

Perinatal Care Issues: Genetics and Your Practice will be held in Carter Hall on Wednesday, September 29, in the University Center at the University of Southern Indiana with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m.

Sponsored by March of Dimes, the Regional Perinatal Advisory Board, and the USI School of Nursing and Health Professions, this conference was created to increase awareness of the evolving field of genetics and how the new knowledge of genetics can be incorporated in health care practice. Genetic resources available to health care practitioners will be discussed. Interested persons might include physicians, nurses, ultrasonographers, physician assistants, social workers, students, and other health care providers.

Dr. David Dawson, a professor in the Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics at Indiana University School of Medicine, will deliver the keynote address at 8 a.m. Certified by the American Board of Pediatrics in pediatrics and by the American Board of Medical Genetics in clinical genetics, Dr. Weaver is director of the IU Genetic Counseling Program and provides genetic evaluation and counseling to patients and their families at the IU Medical Center and at medical genetics clinics throughout Indiana, including Evansville. He also is co-director of the Bone Dysplasia Clinic for individuals with inherited bone disorders. In 1998, he published the third edition of *Catalog of Prenatally Diagnosed Conditions*. Dr. Weaver's research interests include investigating the mechanisms producing birth defects, recognizing new genetic syndromes, and increasing prenatal diagnosis.

Approaches to care and the benefits of counseling are among the topics to be discussed by experts in an afternoon session. The panel will include Ms. Rita A. France, echocardiographer with Ohio Valley HeartCare in Evansville; Dr. Julio Morera, a pediatric cardiologist with Ohio Valley HeartCare; and Dr. James Sumners, pediatrician, obstetrician, and gynecologist on the faculty at the departments of Medical and Molecular Genetics and Obstetric and Gynecology at IU.

Registration is \$60 for the full day which includes lunch; \$40 for morning sessions. Students and medical residents may attend for \$15. Nurses will receive 7.8 contact hours.

For more information, or to register for the seminar, call USI Continuing Education at 812/464-1989 or 800/467-8600.