

news *THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT DALLAS*

southwestern medical school - graduate school of biomedical sciences - school of allied health sciences

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DALLAS--Dr. Frederick C. Battaglia, a recognized specialist in early identification and care of the "high-risk" infant, will deliver the ninth annual Morris and Edna Zale Pediatric Lecture here March 1.

Dr. Battaglia, who is director of the Division of Perinatal Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Denver, will speak at 4 p.m. in the Hugh Leslie Moore Auditorium at Children's Medical Center on the topic, "Perinatal Medicine--an Emergent Specialty."

Appearing under sponsorship of the Department of Pediatrics of The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, the visiting lecturer also will spend the two preceding days taking part in medical rounds and conferences with pediatrics faculty, students and staff at the medical school, Children's and Parkland Hospitals.

Dr. Battaglia is known for his pioneering studies of fetal growth and metabolism--research which has helped develop means whereby doctors are better able to identify infants with potential medical problems that will require specialized diagnosis and care immediately following birth.

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Perinatal medicine, combining aspects of both pediatrics and obstetrics, focuses on the period of care extending from the latter weeks of pregnancy through the early weeks of a newborn's life.

In clinical studies Dr. Battaglia and his associates have developed data which demonstrate a relationship linking fetal size and gestational age with the potential risk of mortality following birth.

An infant that is recognized as small for its gestational age thus is monitored more carefully for such often-encountered problems as hypoglycemia and jaundice of the newborn.

The Colorado researcher has described his findings in more than 100 published scientific papers. Among honors accorded him has been the E. Mead Johnson Award for Pediatric Research given by the American Academy of Pediatrics in 1969.

A 1957 graduate of Yale University School of Medicine, Dr. Battaglia served on the medical faculty of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore before joining the University of Colorado in 1965. He held professorships in both the departments of pediatrics and obstetrics & gynecology at the Denver school before being named to his present post in 1970.

FEBRUARY 20, 1974