

Dr. Laura Minikel, MD

Program Director Kaiser Permanente Oakland Obstetrics and Gynecology



Welcome! One of the very best parts of my career has been to be the Program Director of the Kaiser Oakland Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Program.

I was born in Wisconsin and attended medical school at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. During my fourth year of medical school I did an externship in Ghana, West Africa for 2 months and enjoyed the exposure to international medicine. I then came to Children's Hospital in Oakland, California to pursue a residency in Pediatrics, but soon realized that my true calling was obstetrics and gynecology. I completed my obstetrics and gynecology residency at Kaiser San Francisco and was able to return to Ghana as a senior resident and I remain committed to international health.

I have been working as a general obstetrician and gynecologist at Kaiser Oakland since 2002. During that time I have been involved with the residency program and in 2006 served as the Assistant Program Director. I am very dedicated to teaching and have enjoyed teaching medical students who rotate with us from UCSF during their core third year clerkships, the UCSF KLIC Program, fourth year students from throughout the country and our own residents. I hold a volunteer clinical faculty position at UCSF and was awarded the Outstanding Faculty Award in Medical Student Teaching in 2010, 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2016. Our residents have honored me with the ACOG Excellence in Teaching Award in 2005, 2010 and 2012. In 2015 I was recognized for my teaching with the TPMG Teaching Award for Excellence in Graduate Medical Education which is both humbling and motivating.



My commitment to community has been strong throughout my life and continues today. For seven years I was the Gynecologic Surgery Lead for an organization called Operation Access. OA provides free surgery for underinsured patients on Saturdays. Physicians, nurses, scrub techs, cleaning personnel, anesthesia providers and others all volunteer to sustain this amazing program. I actively volunteer at the Boys and Girls Club, various shelters in my local community and occasionally with Habitat for Humanity. Annually I participate in Doctors on Board, an intensive day-long program targeted to African-American students interested in becoming physicians. The students have the opportunity to network with physicians, residents and medical students. They attend workshops on the medical school admission process, securing financial aid, and mock clinics in knot tying and suturing. Longevity of experience and commitment is important to me. Nothing makes me more proud than the relationship I still have with my little sister from Big Brothers, Big Sisters. We met when she was 6 years old and we still see each other regularly despite living cross country and she is now in her 30s.

Kaiser Permanente in Oakland has a diverse patient population as well as a broad depth of experience for residency training with specialists including Gynecologic Oncology, Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, Perinatology, Urogynecology, Chronic Pelvic Pain, Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology, Family Planning and Laparoscopy.

In my free time I enjoy spending time with friends and family and my husband Bent and his children. I am passionate about volunteering, reading, teaching, cooking, and travel. I enjoy teaching the residents not only the “nuts and bolts” of medicine but also how to “translate” medical issues for patients. Oakland provides a very diverse patient population and the staff of Kaiser East Bay provides a rich, supportive and challenging learning environment. I am honored to be able to direct this outstanding obstetrics and gynecology program.

Thank you for your interest in our program.



Sincerely,

Laura Minikel, MD, FACOG