

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Miss Sohier Elneil



Miss Sohier Elneil is a Consultant Urogynaecologist and Gynaecologist at University College Hospital and the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery in London. Sohier Elneil hails from Sudan, and did her medical training in Nigeria, Zimbabwe and Ethiopia. She started her career in the field of Urogynaecology in the early 1990's when she became involved with patients who suffered vesico-vaginal fistulas and female genital mutilation in the developing world. Despite surgery, many of them went on to suffer further problems with incontinence. This led to her to study the physiology and pharmacology of sensory bladder dysfunction in women. This was with a view to determine whether the pathophysiology could be elucidated, and hence form the focus for new drug therapies. This naturally led on to her current interest in the neurology of the bladder and its surrounding organs at a cellular level, and the role they play in both neurogenic and non-neurogenic bladder dysfunction. As a result she also looks after women with uro-neurological problems, which incorporates the investigation, diagnoses and treatment of patients with neurological bladder dysfunction. At the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queen Square in London, she runs the Sacral Neurostimulator programme for bladder dysfunction, which is used in patients in whom all other treatment modalities have failed.

Though she worked in Obstetrics for twelve years throughout her training career, she no longer does so because of her commitment to dealing with patients with intractable pelvic floor dysfunction. However, she still has a direct attachment to the speciality. In the last few years it has become increasingly evident that women need specialist surgery following childbirth. Perineal injury and rectal sphincter trauma remain a problem in the postpartum period in both the developed and the developing world. Often the specialist reconstructive surgery is the first step on the road to recovery. However, it is essential that the surgery is supported by excellent midwifery and nursing care. Many patients respond well to this multi-disciplinary approach. In order that this is achieved, Miss Elneil is involved with many national (Wellbeing of Women) and international (WHO, FIGO, IUGA and UNFPA) organizations in promoting women's health throughout the developed and developing world.