Physicians recognized for exemplary care of women with hypertensive disorders of pregnancy; blood center recognized for life-saving contributions to mothers and babies

Melbourne, FL – November 8, 2011 – The Preeclampsia Foundation announced today that four New York area physicians will be recognized on November 12 at the 7th annual *Saving Grace – A Night of Hope and Gratitude*
dinner gala at the Hilton New York for their superlative care of women with hypertensive disorders of pregnancy. Receiving the Preeclampsia Foundation's "Outstanding Physician for Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy", honorees include:

- Dr. Phyllis August, a professor at Weill Cornell Medical College and Director of the Lang Center for Research and Education at New York Hospital Queens, is a regularly published and active investigator on the prevention and treatment of preeclampsia.
- Dr. Mary D'Alton, a professor and department chair at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons and an active clinician at New York–Presbyterian Hospital and Columbia University Medical Center, has won numerous awards and held key positions in professional organizations.
- Dr. Andrei Rebarber, president of and an active clinician at Maternal-Fetal Medicine Associates, is also an associate professor at New York University School of Medicine and Mt. Sinai School of Medicine.
- Dr. Daniel Skupski, a professor at Weill Cornell Medical College and an active clinician at New York-Presbyterian Hospital and New York Hospital Queens, has often received the Top Doctor award in New York Magazine.

"These physicians truly exemplify the strong patient-provider relationship for which we so strongly advocate," explained Eleni Tsigas, executive director of the Preeclampsia Foundation, adding that all four consistently demonstrate the height of compassion and expertise in their practices and in their research contributions.

In addition, both the Preeclampsia Foundation and this year's gala co-host, The Foundation for America's Blood Centers, will be co-presenting an award to the New York Blood Center (NYBC). Over the course of its almost 50-year history, NYBC has provided thousands of blood products to save the lives of mothers and babies suffering from complications of pregnancy.

Despite being one of the oldest diseases on record, preeclampsia – a pregnancy-related disorder that strikes at what should be one of the happiest moments in life – remains one of the leading causes of mothers and babies dying or getting very ill around the world, even in high resource nations like the United States. Preeclampsia and the other hypertensive disorders of pregnancy often result in blood loss, sometimes excessive, so access to a safe and adequate

blood supply is critically important for treating it.

NYBC, one of the nation's largest non-profit, community-based blood centers, currently serves more than 20 million people in New York City, Long Island, the Hudson Valley, New Jersey, and parts of Connecticut and Pennsylvania. NYBC is also home to the Lindsley F. Kimball Research Institute and the National Cord Blood Program at the Howard P. Milstein National Cord Blood Center, the world's largest public cord blood bank.

For more information or to attend *Saving Grace – A Night of Hope and Gratitude,* please visit www.savinggrace.preeclampsia.org. Photos and bios of honorees available upon request.
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About the Preeclampsia Foundation: The Preeclampsia Foundation is a U.S.-based 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization established in 2000. It is dedicated to providing patient support and education, raising public awareness, catalyzing research and improving health care practices, envisioning a world where preeclampsia and related hypertensive disorders of pregnancy no longer threaten the lives of mothers and babies. For more information, visit www.preeclampsia.org.

About the Foundation for America's Blood Centers (FABC): The FABC believes that no one should die for lack of access to a safe and adequate blood supply. The FABC funds initiatives that improve the availability, quality and safety of blood to save, extend, or enhance the lives of patients. To implement these programs, we partner with an extensive network of nonprofit blood centers throughout the U.S. and Canada known as America's Blood Centers. Together, these centers are responsible for half the U.S. blood supply, saving millions of lives each year. For more information, visit www.thefabc.org.