

Mary Zelinski is a Professor in the Division of Reproductive & Developmental Sciences at the Oregon National Primate Research Center, Beaverton, OR and in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Oregon Health Sciences University. Her current research focuses on “fertility preservation”, helping young women become mothers after surviving cancer. She studies how the ovary (female reproductive organ) produces follicles, specialized structures in the ovary that contain oocytes (eggs) that can be fertilized to become offspring. She uses technologies such as tissue cryopreservation and bioengineering to help preserve ovarian tissue for transplantation and to grow follicles in a 3-dimensional matrix in vitro to produce oocytes. Dr. Zelinski has a passion for bringing science to the public wherein she directs and participates in many educational outreach activities for adults, high school and middle school students.