

## **Kristin M. Engorn, MD, Ob/Gyn**

Dr. Kristin Engorn was born and grew up in the beautiful country of South Africa. From exploring mines and caves to visiting snake and lion parks after school, her childhood was ripe with adventure. At the age of eleven, her family moved to Irvine, California to be closer to her mother's side of the family. Her father remained in South Africa as he was an engineer in the mining industry, and fortunately Dr. Engorn was able to travel back and forth a lot throughout her school years.



**Dr Engorn age 9 in South Africa**

In high school, she took dance classes and played tennis. After high school, she traveled throughout Europe with one of her best friends, before moving to the Bay Area to attend UC Berkeley. During her time in college, she volunteered at the Suitcase Clinic, a non-profit student-run clinic that provided medical and healthcare services to the homeless, which sparked her interest in the field of medicine.

Less than six months after starting her work with the organization, she became one of the head clinic coordinators and helped run the general clinic and organize its many services. It was one of her most rewarding and worthwhile experiences and was one of the main factors that helped her decide to pursue a career in medicine. During college, Dr. Engorn also worked as philanthropy chair for her sorority, Delta Delta Delta (Tri-Delta), and helped raise thousands of dollars for St. Jude's Children Cancer Research Hospital.

After graduating from college with a double major in Molecular and Cell Biology and Psychology, she moved across the bay to San Francisco where she spent 2 years performing research at UC San Francisco, investigating the role of stem cells in wound healing. She enjoyed her work but missed having a personal relationship with patients. This lack of fulfillment reaffirmed her desire to pursue medicine as a career, and in 2007, she began medical school at Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine in Richmond, Virginia.

From her involvement in medical school student government and various community service projects to her roles as third year clerkship leader, campus tour guide, and Admission's Committee member, she took part in various projects during medical school. After she fell in love with the field during her rotation in medical school, Dr. Engorn chose to pursue training in Obstetrics and Gynecology. She loved the fast-paced and oftentimes unpredictable and exciting environment of labor and delivery.



**Medical School Graduation, Dr. Engorn with her parents**

Playing such a key role in one of the most important and life-changing days in her patients' lives - the day they become a mother - was an incredibly rewarding experience. She really enjoyed the entire field of gynecology and women's health. She couldn't imagine anything more rewarding than following a patient from the trepidation of that first gynecologic visit, to delivering her children, and then caring for her all the way through her menopausal changes.

During her first week in medical school, Dr. Engorn was introduced by a mutual friend to the love of her life, her husband, Branden. He was two years ahead of her in training and was from Baltimore, Maryland. He started his residency training in Pediatrics and Anesthesiology at Johns Hopkins Hospital and Dr. Engorn soon followed, beginning her Obstetrics and Gynecology residency at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore, Maryland.



After completing her residency training, Dr. Engorn worked for two years in a busy Ob/Gyn private practice in Baltimore, staying in town until her husband completed his training there. As hard as it was for her to leave her patients, this past summer, Dr. Engorn, her husband Branden, and their two dogs, Bella (a 13 year-old black Labrador Border-Collie mix) and Charlie (a 3 year-old Golden Retriever mix), drove cross-country, relocating back to California. This brings her closer to her family and her husband Branden is now working at Children's Hospital, Los Angeles. During this trip, Bella and Charlie, who are 10 years apart in age, really bonded and now they love snuggling and sharing a doggie bed together.



**Ob/Gyn Residency Graduation**

In November, 2017, Dr. Engorn and her husband welcomed their first child, a baby boy named Ryland Graham. Dr Engorn is so happy to be back in sunny Southern California and to be closer to her family. She cannot wait to help take care of the women of Pasadena through her work at Fair Oaks Women's Health for many years to come.

