

Report to the NFOG Board

Regarding: Grant DKK 20.000 (NF12037) for collaborative work regarding the scientific topic “*Sex of prior children and subsequent miscarriages and obstetric complications*”- A project between members of the national societies in NFOG.

An initial strategic meeting was held in Helsinki on November 19th 2012. Present at this meeting was Professor Mika Gissler (The Finish National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), Helsinki), Professor Aila Tiitinen (Fertility Clinic, Helsinki), Docent Heljä-Marja Surcel (THL, Finnish Maternity Cohort (FMC) Serum Bank Oulu –by video connection), Professor Seppo Heinonen (Dept.of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Kuopio), Senior Specialist Registrar Henriette Svarre Nielsen (Fertility Clinic, Copenhagen). A collaborative study was decided. Strategies to identify eligible patients in Registries and subsequent withdrawal of biological material from the FMC Serum Bank and approval processes were discussed and finally assignments were distributed among the team.

Subsequently, Professor Seppo Heinonen visited the collaborative team lead by Eric Spierings, Head of HLA & Tissue Typing Laboratory, University Medical Center Utrecht, on June 13th -14th 2013 to discuss logistics and specific analysis after end sampling at FMC Serum Bank.

Status based on the seed grant NF 12037 from NFOG:

1. Research plan finalized, and all approvals obtained
2. The Nordic network required for FMC case identification and sample collection (the cohort with a required set of data along with biological samples) has been established
3. Recurrent miscarriage sample collection with detailed clinical information from Veli-Matti Ulander, Helsinki University Hospital, has been attached to the project
4. International collaboration has been established with Eric Spierings, Utrecht as specified above
5. Agreement on the collaboration with Stanford signed

To be done

1. Sample collection and vitamin D testing at FMC Serum Bank Oulu
2. Analysis of HLA antibodies, LAIR 1 and 2 at Utrecht University Medical Centre and analysis of HY antibodies at Stanford University
3. Data analysis and interpretation, publication and other relevant dissemination of results