

Report to the NFOG Board

RE: Visit to the University of Sydney (19.10. - 2.11.2012) / Juha Mäkinen

Professor Ian Fraser from University of Sydney, Australia, and I met in World Endometriosis Society congress in Montpellier in September 2011. We discussed about a joint project on endometriosis research. Since then I visited in this clinic first time in 2011. During that visit in December 2011 - January 2012 we were planning a prospective research idea upon nerve fiber analysis before and after the operation for advanced endometriosis. In this regard I was invited by him to visit his clinic this autumn 2012.

My visit to Sydney in October/November 2012 taughted me a lot of the activity of the research unit in Sydney. I also got to know their clinical aspects in treatment of endometriosis. I was carrying with me the first "test" samples of endometrium from our clinical patients to guarantee that they are valid for analyses of nerve fibres. These paraffin blocks seemed to be good enough and the analysis of the results hopefully is leading to a prospective study in endometriosis operations starting in Turku Finland in 2013.

In clinical rounds and meetings I got myself acquaint with the researches, clinicians, methods in laboratory analysis and interactive practise in their weekly meetings. I was lucky to join two times in these Friday meetings where many junior and senior researches presented their results of ongoing studies. In those occasions I was also told about their clinical endometriosis studies with some of the newest treatment approaches. For example, very interesting was to treat symptomatically "clear" endometriosis patient with Mirena and Implanon combination even without laparoscopic diagnosis on beforehand. Their series of first hundred patient showed that this kind of approach is very very promising. This is something that I hope we can adapt to our clinical treatment practice in Finland, too.

After the fruitful visit in Sydney I am looking forward to start our prospective joint study with Turku and Sydney University on endometriosis in 2013. For further collaborations we will already meet in May 2013 in Turku Finland where we have the 4th Nordic Congress on Endometriosis (www.nce2013.fi) where also Professor Ian Fraser will give his presentation about nerve fiber analysis in endometriosis patient.

I warmly thank for the support by the NFOG fund to complete my visit in Sydney 2012.

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