

Stockholm
23 October 2011

I hereby want to leave a written report from my year as a Research Fellow at King's College Hospital, London, UK and to thank the NFOG fund for granting me support.

The past year I have worked as a Research Fellow, primarily at The Harris Birthright Research Centre at King's College Hospital, London, UK. The work undertaken has mainly implied obstetrical ultrasound scanning. The scans have varied from first trimester scans in order to date the pregnancy and assess the risk for Down syndrome to anomaly scans at 20 – 22 weeks of gestation and growth scans further on in the pregnancy. The clinics start at nine o'clock and work continues non-stop until the evening. The work is undertaken in teams with one senior fellow and at least one junior in the room.

King's College Hospital is a referral centre for several other hospitals and therefore, a number of complicated singleton and multiple pregnancies as well as anomalies found elsewhere are sent to this unit. This is a highly specialised unit equipped with a number of consultants with a vast knowledge of fetal medicine, geneticist and fetal cardiologists. There are also specialised clinics for surgical and renal cases. A number of patients are also referred for procedures such as laser separation of placental anastomoses in monochorionic twins and treatment with balloon in cases of diaphragmatic hernias.

It has been very interesting experiencing another health care system from the inside. Furthermore, several other units are linked to King's College Hospital, which has provided me with the opportunity of working at a number of different hospitals in and around London.

Finally, it has been an excellent year and a privilege being able to work at a unit of this high standard. My scanning skills have significantly improved as well as my knowledge in fetal medicine and for this I am very grateful.

Yours sincerely,

Lotta Herling