

Fellowship in Fetal Medicine, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney Australia

I left Denmark end of September 2018 to start a 6-month clinical fellowship in Fetal Medicine in Sydney October 1<sup>st</sup>. The appointment was part of my expert education in Fetal Medicine.

It was a struggle and a lot of paper work to get the permission to work in Sydney. It required an extreme amount of documents, medical assessments and an IELTS English test, which all had to be accepted by the Australian Medical Council, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and the hospital. It took more than 8 month to get the paperwork done. In case anyone needs to go through this process, I am happy to assist, as it is a bit of a jungle and can cause a lot of frustration. But it was all worth it in the end.

I chose Department of High-risk Obstetrics/Fetal Medicine at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital as I had been visiting as an observer 8 years before as part of my PhD thesis. The prenatal service in this department is in many ways similar to our departments in Denmark, offering first trimester screening for chromosomal abnormalities and second trimester screening for fetal malformations. Professor Jon Hyett is a leading expert in the field of fetal medicine, and I was pleased that he accepted me as a fellow in the department.

My primary aim was to see how they have included screening for preeclampsia in the first trimester in their routine setting. On top of that I wanted to improve my scanning skills with focus on heart malformations and to further strengthen our Danish/Australian research collaboration.

I worked primarily in the Fetal Medicine unit with the consultants and other fellows. I did routine first trimester scans including screening for preeclampsia, I did all other types of screening scans including routine growth scan in the third trimester, which we do not offer in Denmark. They scan more patients per day than I am used to and work longer hours, usually from 8-17.30.

Every week I did a list with fetal echocardiographies under supervision of dr Ritu Morgra, who is an expert in fetal cardiology. I also participated in a 3 day fetal cardiac morphology course during my stay in Sydney.

I had the opportunity to go and see a completely different Fetal Medicine Department in Townsville with dr Cecilia O'Brian for 2 days. Resources and the

patients are different, and they see a lot of pathology and interesting cases, as they receive patients from a large uptake area including many aboriginals.

I used some of my time in Sydney to initiate and plan new common projects with professor Hyett and associate professor Andrew McLennan. We share an interest in screening for adverse obstetric outcomes and I think we have established a solid ground for future collaboration.

I am grateful to NFOG for supporting my stay in Sydney and my expert education in Fetal Medicine.

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