

ANNIKA RISKA

NFOG VISITOR PROGRAM 2010

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I got the great opportunity to visit the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Lund University Hospital in January 25th to 31th 2010. I work as a senior consultant at Helsinki University Hospital, Kätilöopisto Maternity Hospital, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology . My subspeciality is gynaecological oncology. I was especially interested to see gynaecological cancer surgery, robotic surgery and screening program and colposcopic system of cervical cell changes in Lund. My interest was also to see the radiotherapy system.

Associate professor Päivi Kannisto was most kind to invite me to Lund, and she really took care of me during my one week visit. As I had earlier wished I stayed mostly in the operating theatre. I was daily an assistant doctor in gynaecological cancer operations as in vulvar and ovarian cancer operations. I had the exciting opportunity to follow-up operations with the robot; the world that was introduced me by Jan Persson. I also had the opportunity to try the robot a little bit. The three dimensional picture and instruments with joints made it a very exciting experience.

I followed up the colposcopic policlinic and learned a lot of the Swedish cervical cancer screening system. Every morning and some afternoons I took part to meetings and I also had my presentation of primary Fallopian tube carcinoma on Monday evening. It was interesting to take part to meetings together with gynaecologists (surgeons) and oncologists where they discussed difficult cases together. The last day, senior consultant Susanne Malander introduced me to the department of radiotherapy.

I learned a lot of interesting things of gynaecological oncology and surgery. The main difference between Swedish and Finnish gynaecological oncology treatments is that surgery and chemo-radiotherapy are carried out by different doctors. The cervical cancer screening starts earlier in Sweden than in Finland and is partly based then on HPV test. The treatment guidelines are quite similar.

There had been 501 robotic operations in Lund thus far, so they have a huge material and experience of these operations.

I want to express my gratitude and warm thanks for all colleagues and staff in Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in University Hospital in Lund. Especially my deepest thanks goes to Päivi Kannisto for guidance and for planning me extremely interesting program with social events also.

Overall, my visit was inspiring and I want to thank the NFOG board for the financial support, which made this visit possible.

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