

KATI TIHTONEN – Haukeland Sykehus, Bergen

I am a senior consultant working in the department of Obstetrics in Tampere University Hospital, Finland. In recent years my main interest has been fetal medicine. I have paid attention to the publications published by Professor Kiserud and his co-workers and wanted to get a more knowledge about the fetal circulation and Doppler examinations. That was why I decided to visit ultrasound outpatient ward in Haukeland University Hospital in Bergen, Norway. The visit took place between 21.-25.9. 2009.

I was warmly welcomed by Pofessor Kiserud and I was privileged to get interactive teaching from the physiological basics of Doppler examinations to fetal circulation – especially in the liver. I got an insight view about the latest findings in intrauterine growth restricted fetuses. From the practical point of view, I was also able to see cases with altered fetal circulation collected through years.

In the clinic there was also arranged some discussions with colleagues who had recently done their thesis. I appreciate time spent with Synnøve Lian Johnsen, Catherine Ebbing, Svein Magne Skulstad and Jörg Kessler. Based on their works I got a good review about fetal growth, fetal splanchnic arteries, portal flow and umbilical vein constriction at the abdominal wall.

Besides the teachings and discussions, I daily followed ultrasound examination in the ultrasound outpatient ward for high risk patients. I also did some examinations by myself. It was useful to see experienced colleagues in work and I got some hints for my own technique. From the practical point of view it was also rewarding to change thoughts about different protocols in managing patients.

While staying in Bergen I got new insights and deepened my knowledge about fetal circulation. Besides of the theoretical learning I had some concrete to take home. I was introduced to the idea of conditional curves of different types of Doppler examinations and fetal growth which I am now working to get used in our practice.

I appreciated my visit and want warmly thank NFOG, Professor Kiserud and all the colleagues and staff working in the ultrasound outpatient ward in Haukeland University Hospital, Bergen.

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