

NFOG VISITOR PROGRAM
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I visited the Glostrup Hospital in Copenhagen in the week 38 in September, 2007. This clinic is the other centre of excellence in endometriosis in Denmark and the other is situated in Århus. Severe endometriosis is centralised in these two clinics which will ensure the proper treatment of the disease. In too many cases deep endometriosis is not noticed or removed during the primary operation and patient is not cured. Severe endometriosis causes often also severe adhesions making the operation very demanding. Centralisation will make sure that gynaecologists will get enough experience to manage with these difficult operations which may need bowel resection, bladder resections or ureterolysis. Most of these operations are performed nowadays laparoscopically.

The Glostrup Hospital is specialised to prolapse, incontinence and endometriosis. The head of the department is Jens Jorgen Kjer and I had an opportunity to follow his and Jens Kristensen's work during that week. They have a special out-patient policlinic for endometriosis patients which will make sure that patient are examined and treated right at the first place. There were first visits, postoperative visits and yearly controls to be followed. Many patients came to see a doctor with their husband or boyfriend which was different from Finland where husbands will mainly attend the visit in case of infertility.

I also had an opportunity to join the operations. Most of the endometriosis operations are performed laparoscopically and only the most severe cases by laparotomy. There were some steps which were different from our hospital for example the entry to abdomen was performed straight with a trocar through umbilicus and not with a Veress needle. Laser was also used liberally to destroy endometriotic lesions contrast to our clinic where we use electrocoagulation and resection of lesions. The most difficult cases with bowel endometriosis are treated either by discoid resection or segmental bowel resection in Glostrup while we have been concentrated mostly with segmental resections. There is no consensus so far how to treat these severe cases and it was very interesting to discuss about different ways to handle different types of endometriosis.

I was very pleased with my visit to Glostrup and I also had some time to walk around the very beautiful Copenhagen and even to visit Karen Blixen museum.

