

Research Grant Report Form

Name and origin of applicants:

Silvia Malenicka, Karolinska University Hospital Huddinge, 141 85 Stockholm

Purpose of research project granted:

Evaluation of vaccination practices in liver transplanted children in the Nordic countries

Amount granted:

308.743 DKK

Report of scientific progress:

During last year (2019) we have been working further on the logistics of the most optimal analysing of all the blood samples needed for this study from all the participating Nordic centers.

We have signed an agreement with Karolinska University Laboratory Studieceter who will help us with all the logistics regarding all the blood tests for all included study patients from all the participating centers. We have agreed on how to pseudomise the identity of the included study patients without compromising the possibility to identify them if we need to for example revaccinate them. We have also worked on how the requests for the blood samples will look like, to simplify the sampling and the laboratory logistics.

We have applied for registering the study patients and their blood samples in the two Swedish Biobanks, the principal one in Stockholm has already approved the study.

During the beginning of 2020 we have also added the analysis of antimicrobial peptides (a part of the innate immune response) to our study, in each included patient, and applied for an amendment in our ethical approval. This addition was approved in March 2020, and we were about to start including the first patients when the COVID-19 pandemic emerged. Thus, since early March 2020, when our hospital

stopped all non-emergency care, we have unfortunately not been able to include anybody in this study. All the post liver transplant yearly check-ups were postponed.

We have just restarted them and are ready to start including patients in the study. Similar problem with regard to postponed activities are noted for all the other Nordic centers participating in the study.

The Scandiatransplant Research Grant money is currently allocated at the Karolinska University Hospital Project Research Account and have not yet been used. It will be used for the continuous costs for handling and analysing the blood samples by Studiecenter.

Given this unforeseen situation we would kindly like to ask you for the possibility to further prolong the use of the grant money by another 12 months to ensure the inclusion of all eligible study patients from all the participating centers.
