

Travel Grant Report Form

Name and origin of applicants

Pia Fernberg, Sweden

Purpose granted

Study visit to the tissue bank in Lund and the bone bank in Östersund

Amount granted

25,300 DKK

Time and place of visit

March 29th Bone bank in Östersund. April 8th Tissue bank in Lund

Report

Five representatives from Regional Donation Centre made a study visit to the tissue bank in Lund April 8th. We met with the Head of the tissue bank, Torsten Malm who told us about the history of the unit. We learnt about the national need for various tissues (cornea, heart valves, bone, tendons, skin). Torsten told us about all the steps in tissue donation from donor detection, consent, blood sample that needs to be taken within 24hours, the mobile team that drives to the pathology units and gather up tissues, preparation of the tissues in special clean rooms, storage etc. Furthermore, they have an advanced computer system MAC-TCS that covers the entire process. We also got to take a tour of the facilities.

March 29th the same five representatives from Regional Donation Centre travelled to the national bone bank in Östersund. We got a lecture on how they work. When there is an organ donor they gather up bone and tendons in a special built operating room with ultra clean air. The reason being a high risk of contamination. The whole procedure is very thoroughly organized (every step in a special order) and documented. One person is in charge of handling and packaging, marking and documentation. Bone and tendons are kept in fridges (-80C). The national bone bank uses Pro Sang computer system. We also got to take a tour of the facilities.

Evaluation

Lesson learned from the tissue bank in Lund. The process of tissue donations highly benefits from being centralized in the way it is at the tissue bank in Lund. Moreover, the mobile team has greatly increased the number of tissue donations in the region.

Lesson learned from the Bone bank in Östersund. Bone and tendon donation is a process that requires a lot of resources. Also, a very high standard in terms of hygiene and ultra clean air is needed.
