

CURRICULUM VITAE: Niels E. Skakkebak

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Education

- 1965 Graduated Medical School, University of Copenhagen.
1965 - 1967 Basic medical training at Sct. Joseph's Hospital, Copenhagen.
1972 - 1980 Training in medicine and pediatrics at various hospitals in the Copenhagen area.

Doctoral dissertation

- 1974 Doctor of Medical Sciences, University of Copenhagen. Studies on meiotic chromosomes in infertile males.
2006 Doctor h.c. University of Turku, Finland

Professional career

- 1967 - 1972 Chromosome Laboratory, Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen (Research assistant).
1969 - 1970 Pacific Northwest Research Foundation, Seattle, USA (Research assistant).
1974 - 1975 Medical Research Council Reproductive Center, Edinburgh, Scotland.
1975 - 1980 Clinical training and laboratory research at Rigshospitalet (combined).
1980 - 1982 Laboratory of Reproductive Biology, Rigshospitalet (Consultant).
1982 - 1990 Professor of Pediatrics, University of Copenhagen, Fuglebakken Hospital and Hvidovre Hospital.
Since 1990 University of Copenhagen, Rigshospitalet, Professor
1990 - 2006 Chairman of University Department of Growth and Reproduction, Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen.
Since 2006 Senior Researcher, University Department of Growth & Reproduction and adjunct professor, University of Copenhagen.

Research

- 1965 - 1972 Cytogenetics of spermatogenesis disorders in infertile men, incl. Klinefelter syndrome.
Since 1972 - Carcinoma in situ testis (CIS): biological, genetic, clinical and epidemiological aspects.
Prevalence of CIS in infertile men, patients with undescended testis and with intersex.
Prevalence of CIS in risk groups and normal population. CIS in the contralateral testis of men with unilateral testicular cancer. Eradication of CIS by local irradiation of the testis.
Early detection of CIS by biopsy of the testis. Detection of CIS cells in seminal fluid.
Stem cell properties of the CIS cell.
Since 1985 - Endocrinological aspects of growth and reproduction with emphasis on IGF-I and Inhibin-B, and their relation to puberty and testicular function, including spermatogenesis.
Since 1992 - Environmental aspects of male reproduction and its disorders, including testicular cancer.
Testing of the so-called endocrine disrupter hypothesis (which links poor semen quality, testicular cancer, undescended testis and hypospadias as various symptoms of a testicular dysgenesis syndrome, due to impaired differentiation of fetal primordial germ cells).
Systematic molecular studies of gene expression in the testis and testicular neoplasia.

Major accomplishments:

Demonstration of CIS as the precursor of testicular germ cell tumours. Linking CIS with maldeveloped gonads and the intersex syndrome. Establishment and optimisation of testicular biopsy as a tool in early detection of CIS. Characterisation of the phenotype of the CIS cell and discovery of several markers for CIS. Eradication of CIS by low dose irradiation (preventing orchiectomy of second testis in men with testicular cancer). Providing evidence for developmental origin of CIS and germ cell cancer. Scientific evidence for adverse trends in male reproductive health and for an aetiological link between male reproductive disorders.

Publications

Published >500 papers in international peer reviewed journals.

Citations per August 2012: >29.000 (extracted from ISI Web of Knowledge).

H-index: 83(calculated according to ISI).

Prizes and awards:

1992, Anna & Jakob Jakobsen's Award. 1993, Novo Nordisk Research Prize. 1996, Andrea Prader Prize (European Society of Pediatric Endocrinology). 2001, W. Nielsen's Award. 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004 donations from Svend Andersen's Fund. 2004 Codan Prize. 2005 Honorary Member of European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE), 2005 Honorary Member of the Finnish Paediatric Society. 2006, KFJ Medical Research Prize, Copenhagen University. 2008 The Lundbeck Foundation Nordic Research Prize. 2008 European Medal, British Society for Endocrinology. 2009 Danish Oncology Prize.