



ANDROLOGY CENTER GHENT, BELGIUM
DEPTS OF ENDOCRINOLOGY, REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE AND
UROLOGY

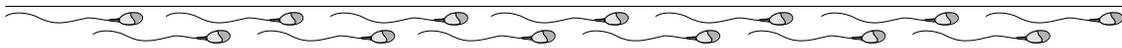
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A Report for the European Academy of Andrology

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Andrology center at the Ghent University Hospital, Belgium:

Summary of Activities

The Center for Andrology, Ghent University Hospital, Belgium, has a long history of innovation and research in many fields of andrology including reproductive medicine, the aging male, transgender care, hormonology, and the effect of the environment on reproductive health.

Many tests to simplify the diagnosis of male infertility have been developed at our andrology laboratory including the MAR test for the detection of antisperm antibodies, the Autosperm system for objective semen analysis, the fertilityScore kit, and Varicoscreen for the thermographic detection of varicocele. The formula of Vermeulen and Kaufman for the calculation of free testosterone has also been generated at our department. Moreover, Frank Comhaire and Ahmed Mahmoud co-edited the WHO clinical manual for the diagnosis and treatment of the subfertile male.

Prof. Frank Comhaire, a pioneer andrologist and director of the center retired in 2005. In the following years, the head of department of Endocrinology and supervisor of the Andrology center, Prof. Jean-Marc Kaufman shifted the focus of our research in the direction of the aging male and the effects of hormones on bone. After Jean-Marc Kaufman's recent retirement in October 2014, Prof Guy T'Sjoen, the new head of the department of Endocrinology, also head of the center for Sexology, is focused on reproductive andrology, pituitary disease, sexology and gender dysphoria, in addition to the above-mentioned fields of research.

The Division of Reproductive medicine has been one of the first to implement the technique of intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) since 1993, soon followed by TESE in case of obstructive and non-obstructive azoospermia. More specifically, disorders of fertilization after ICSI, due to oocyte activation pathology, caused by the absence of the sperm mediated oocyte activation factor phospholipase C- ζ , have been studied and treated using artificial oocyte activation techniques.

Other fields of action in Andrology have been developed, a.o. genetics, pathology, oncology and freezing, sexology etc.

Our center has been previously certified by the EAA. The site visit took place on the 27th of November 2002. It is now conceived and run a platform of specialists interacting with each other with the best possible treatment path for the patient in mind. The Andrological Center is coordinated by prof. dr. Jan Gerris (clinical coordinator) and governed by a steering committee consisting of Prof. Dr. Guy T'Sjoen (head of dept. of Endocrinology), prof. Dr. Petra De Sutter (Center for Reproductive Medicine) and prof. Dr. Karel Everaert (Urology), while Dr. Ahmed Mahmoud is scientific coordinator. Prof. Dr. T'Sjoen and Dr. Ahmed Mahmoud are EAA-certified clinical andrologists. Prof. Guy T'Sjoen is also Fellow of the European Board of Sexual Medicine (ESSM), treasurer of the Belgian Endocrine Society and initiator and local organiser of the 1st meeting of the European Professional Association for Transgender Health (EPATH), took place in March 2015. He initiated 2 years ago the training as Clinical Sexologist at the Ghent University and was 1 of the promoters of the Sexpert project 'Sexual Health in Flanders'. The 5th International DSD symposium, DSD has also been organized by our group, in Ghent, June, 2015. It also included a training course. Prof. De Sutter is member of the executive committee of the European Society of Human Reproduction and also senator in the present government.

The Andrology center disposes of consultation facilities at the out-patient section of the Endocrinology department as well as dedicated consultation possibilities within the CRM and the dept. of Urology. Laboratory facilities are include

objective analysis of spermatozoa, biochemical and biological investigations, and functional assays and of course an outstanding IVF/ICSI embryological laboratory performing around 2000 IVF/ICSI cycles per year. Many facilities are available in collaborating departments including: diagnostic and interventional radiology, gynecology, sexology, assisted reproductive technology (ART), urological and plastic surgery, genetic investigations and counseling, metabolic bone disease work-up, extensive laboratory expertise in hormonology, enzymology, protein chemistry, lipid biochemistry, immunohistochemistry, bacteriology, etc. The Andrology center thus functions as an integrated multidisciplinary platform where the patient is seen and treated by the most appropriate physician(s) and collaborators. We are pleased to announce that Dr. Maarten Albersen will soon join our team part time at the urology department. This is a part of collaboration with the department of urology, university hospital Leuven. Dr. Albersen's area of expertise is surgery and research in the field of erectile dysfunction.

*This permits our Andrology center to treat many diverse andrological pathologies including male infertility, erectile and sexual dysfunction, pituitary tumors, hypogonadism, Klinefelter syndrome, male hypersexuality, and gender dysphoria. **Table 1** summarizes data on more than two thousand patients cared for at our center in 2012-December 2015.*

We have been working hard for tighter integration and better service for our patients with infertility. The andrology laboratory has been moved to a new location in the vicinity of the Urology, Gynecology and ART departments. The sperm bank is now integrated in the "clean room" for ART. In the coming years, all andrological consultations will also be re-allocated to the same area of the hospital. It has also been decided to channel the workflow of andrology through a single phone number for the all departments at our hospital. Then patients are directed according to medical situation either to andrology, urology or gynecology/IVF. Standardized guidelines have been developed in collaboration with all involved specialists.

Our andrology laboratory performs about 950 semen analyses per year and performs screening and test sperm-freezing for about sixty candidate sperm donors per year.

The Andrology center is a founding member of the “Belgian expert group for semen analysis” which provides training in semen analysis under supervision of the Belgian Institute of Public Health. The andrology laboratory also provides the sperm samples for the nation-wide external quality control organized by Belgian Institute of Public Health.

We plan to train two young physicians (endocrinologists in training) as andrologists (Dr. Katrien Wierckx and Dr. Loes Moernaut, both expressed their interest in andrology) starting during their specialization studies as endocrinologists. They are keen on getting EAA certified. A young gynecologist in training (Dr. Jeroen Desmet) will follow the same plan with a focus on the andrological dimension of artificial reproduction techniques.

The Andrology Center of the University Hospital of Ghent therefore provides medical services for patient care, education, and performs research in different fields of andrology, endocrinology and sexology.

*In the period 2012-December 2015 alone, these concerted efforts generated 176 international peer-reviewed scientific publications, and permitted us to perform 12 ongoing therapeutic studies in addition to one review for the pharmaceutical industry (not disclosed here) and non-therapeutic studies (see **Recent and ongoing studies and Projects**) in these fields.*

Table 1. Diagnosis and number of unique patients 2012-December 2015 (n=3086)

Type of patients in the last years (%)	2012	2013	2014	2015 till 01/12/2015
Infertility	105 (15.2)	68 (9.5)	88 (10.8)	71 (8.3)
Erectile dysfunction	24 (3.5)	29 (4.0)	30 (3.7)	45 (5.2)
Hypogonadotropic Hypogonadism	62 (9.0)	74 (10.3)	93 (11.4)	112 (13.0)
Klinefelter	31 (4.5)	33 (4.6)	33 (4.0)	45 (5.2)
Gynaecomastia	23 (3.3)	19 (2.6)	22 (2.7)	33 (3.8)
Varicocele	24 (3.5)	20 (2.8)	22 (2.7)	21 (2.4)
Cryptorchidism	39 (5.6)	34 (4.7)	35 (4.3)	39 (4.5)
Male sex accessory gland infections	3 (0.4)	4 (0.6)	3 (0.4)	3 (0.4)
Testicular tumours	1 (0.1)	1 (0.1)	2 (0.2)	2 (0.2)
Disorders of gender identity	301 (43.6)	345 (48.1)	398 (48.7)	392 (45.6)
Other	78 (11.3)	90 (12.6)	92 (11.2)	97 (11.3)

Recent and ongoing studies and Projects

Flemish Support Centre for Science Policy and Equal Opportunities (2010-2012). (University Antwerpen & Hasselt, Belgium). Effect of a gender role transition on quality of life in transsexuals. (J. Motmans, Promotor G. T'Sjoen, co-promotor P. Meier (UA)).

Institute for Science and Technology "Instituut voor Wetenschap en Technologie"(IWT) project (2011-2014). Sexpert 2, sexual health in Flanders. (G. T'Sjoen, A. Buysse, P. Enzlin, J. Lievens, H. Vermeersch, M. Van Houtte, a collaboration between the Faculties of Sociology, Psychology University Gent & Interfacultair Instituut voor Familiale en Seksuologische Wetenschappen, K.U. Leuven, Belgium and Sensoa. (Google: sexpert-vlaanderen). Total amount of support 1.808.456 €

Fund for scientific research (FWO) mandate. E. Van Caenegem, promoter G. T'Sjoen. Project number FWO11/ASP/152. The interactions between sex steroids, bone geometry and body composition in transsexual persons.

Special Research Fund (BOF) mandate. K. Wierckx, promotor G. T'Sjoen. Project number 01D20711. Influence of sex steroids on psychosexual function: a prospective intervention study.

Support Centre for Equal Opportunities "Steunpunt Gelijke Kansenbeleid" (2012-2016). (with University Antwerp). Violence on the basis of transgenderism, the effect transgender parents on their children and the social position of the family. J. Motmans, & Myrthe Dierckx; promotor G. T'Sjoen, co-promotor P. Meier (UA), D. Mortelmans, UA) 217.900€

Equal chances in Flanders Project “Gelijke Kansen in Vlaanderen project” (2012-2015). Transgenderinfo.be. J. Motmans, promotor G. T’Sjoen (UZ Gent). 276.000 €

Improving transgender care in Flanders (2013). 20.000 €

European Society for Sexual Medicine grant for Preclinical and Clinical Research 2012. Gender identity disorder: a randomised controlled trial. 25.000 €

Institute for equality between men and women “Instituut voor de gelijkheid van vrouwen en mannen” (2013-2015). Translation and maintainance of the website Transgenderinfo.be in French. 25.000 €

Development of governmental guidelines for gender identity/expression (2015-2016). 30.388 €

Intersex persons in Belgium: an analysis (2015-2016). 40.570 €

Improving support of partners of transsexuals (2015). 42.925 €

Development of a new method for the evaluation of sperm morphology (A. Mahmoud in collaboration with Department of Gynecology)

The ENIGI initiative (ongoing): A European network for the investigation of gender incongruence. European collaboration between VU Amsterdam, Hamburg University, Florence University and Oslo University.

The Family Study (ongoing): Local initiative investigates bone density in 1000 cases and 124 families.

The Siblos study (ongoing): Local initiative investigates bone and androgen parameters in brothers.

The clinical relevance of DNA fragmentation of sperm in the treatment of unexplained infertility by intrauterine insemination (2014 – 2016).

The RIF study: The effect of antioxidant treatment on IVF results (industry sponsored (in preparation)

Doctoral theses and Students

Galbha Duggal. Human embryonic stem cells: different shades of pluripotency and differentiation potential. Promoter: P. De Sutter, co-promoter: D. Deforce (2015)

Stephanie Malfait and Femke Rieder. Methods for phospholipase C zeta quantification in sperm samples: ELISA and RT-qPCR. Promoters: P. De Sutter, M. Ferrer Buitrago. (2015)

Jitesh Neupane. Diagnostic and therapeutic approaches to prevent the transmission of heritable mitochondrial diseases. Promoter: P. De Sutter, co-promoter: D. Deforce. (2015)

Dimitra Nikiforaki. Human oocyte activation and the causes of fertilization failure. Promoter: P. De Sutter, co-promoter: B. Heindryckx. (2015)

Emine Özpak and Astrid Schögler. Induction of the acrosome reaction in human sperm: quantitative analysis of artificial and physiological inducers. Promoter: P. De Sutter. (2015)

Elsie Beulens. Fertility Knowledge of in persons at reproductive age (in Dutch). Promoters: P. De Sutter, A.-S. Van Parys, J. Goossens. (2014)

Els Elaut. Psychological and physiological mechanisms in the effect of hormonal contraceptives on the female sexual desire (in Dutch). Promoter: A. Buysse, co-promoter: G. T'Sjoen; (2014)

Stefan Goemaere. Cross-sectional and longitudinal study of bone mineral status of older men. Promoters: J. Kaufman and A. Verbruggen (2014)

Gunter Heylens. Etiology and psychiatric aspects of gender dysphoria (in Dutch). Promotor: C. van Heeringen, co-promoter: G. T'Sjoen. (2014)

Eva van Caenegem. Bone health in trans persons, clinical evaluation and relevance. Promotor: G. T'Sjoen, co-promoter: Y. Taes. (2014)

Margot Van der Jeught. Small molecules, big effects?: the use of small molecules during human embryo development and human embryonic stem cell derivation. Promoter: P. De Sutter, co-promoter: D. Deforce. (2014)

Ellen van Houdenhove. Asexuality (in Dutch). Promoter: G. T'Sjoen & P. Enzlin, Familial and sexual sciences, KU Leuven (2014)

Peter Vanlangenhove. Contributions to the pathophysiology and treatment of varicoceles. Promoter: L. Defreyne (2015)

Liesbeth Vossaert. Histone H3 clipping in human embryonic stem cells: in pursuit of an epigenetic outcast. Promoter: D. Deforce; co-promoter: P. De Sutter. (2014)

Katrien Wierckx. Clinical effects of cross-sex hormone therapy in adult trans persons. Promoter: G. T'Sjoen, co-promoter: J.M. Kaufman (2014)

Dorien Broekaert. Activation and inhibition of pathways involved in self renewal and differentiation of pluripotent stem cells (in Dutch). Promoter: P. De Sutter, thesis tutor: G. Duggal, co-promoter: B. Heindryckx. (2013)

Soetkin De Brucker. Imprinting abnormalities after assisted reproduction: A theoretical or real risk? (In Dutch). Promoter: P. De Sutter. (2012)

Hanna Busschop Azoospermia: A literature review and development of a care plan (in Dutch). Promoter: J. Gerris. (2013)

Frauke Vanden Meerschaut. Efficiency and safety of assisted oocyte activation (AOA) in the mouse and the human. Promotor: P. De Sutter, co-promoter: B. Heindryckx (2013)

Thomas O'Leary. Human embryonic stem cell derivation: influences and origin. Promoter: P. De Sutter, co-promoter: B. Heindryckx. (2012)

Karen Versieren. Optimisation of parthenogenetic activation of mouse and human oocytes. Promoter: P. De Sutter, co-promoter: M. Dhont (2012)

Joke Van Damme. Unplanned and undesired pregnancies (ongoing). Promoter: G. T'Sjoen, co-promotor: A. Buysse

Frederique Van De Velde. Sex steroids and obesity (ongoing)

Charlotte Verroken. Determinants and clinical consequences of sex steroid status with particular focus on the interrelationship between sex steroid status, body composition and substrate metabolism (ongoing)

Publications in peer-reviewed international journals

2015

Bekaert M, Van Nieuwenhove Y, Calders P, Cuvelier CA, Batens AH, Kaufman JM, Ouwens DM, and Ruige JB. Determinants of testosterone levels in human male obesity. *ENDOCRINE*; 2015;50, 202-211. Impact factor: 3.878

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Callens N, Bronselaer G, De Sutter P, De Cuypere G, T'Sjoen G, Hoebeke P, and Cools M. Costs of pleasure and the benefits of pain: self-perceived genital sensation, anatomy and sexual dysfunction. *SEXUAL HEALTH*, 2015 Nov 16. doi: 10.1071/SH15160. [Epub ahead of print]. *Impact factor: 1.368*

Callens N, De Cuypere G, T'Sjoen G, Monstrey S, Lumen N, Van Laecke E, Hoebeke P, and Cools M. Sexual quality of life after total phalloplasty in men with penile deficiency: an exploratory study. *WORLD JOURNAL OF UROLOGY*, 2015;33, 137-143. *Impact factor: 2.666*

Chowdhury S, Birtle A, Bjartell A, Costa L, Feyerabend S, Galli L, Lumen N, Kalinka-Warzocha E, Maroto P, Matveev V et al. The Prostate Cancer Registry: Analysis of Medical Resource Utilisation (Mru) in An International, Prospective, Observational Study of Men with Metastatic Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer (Mcrpc). *VALUE IN HEALTH*,2015; 18, A482. Impact factor: 3.279

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Comhaire F and Mahmoud A (2015) The andrologist's contribution to a better life for ageing men: part 1. ANDROLOGIA, 2015 Sep 22. doi: 10.1111/and.12485. [Epub ahead of print]. *Impact factor: 1.63*

Comhaire F and Mahmoud A (2015) The andrologist's contribution to a better life for ageing men: part 2. ANDROLOGIA, 2015 Sep 22. doi: 10.1111/and.12489. [Epub ahead of print]. *Impact factor: 1.63*

Cools M, Goemaere S, Baetens D, Raes A, Desloovere A, Kaufman JM, De Schepper J, Jans I, Vanderschueren D, Billen J et al. Calcium and bone homeostasis in heterozygous carriers of CYP24A1 mutations: A cross-sectional study. BONE, 2015;81, 89-96. Impact factor: 3.973

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De Groote K, Demulier L, De Backer J, De Wolf D, De Schepper J, T'Sjoen G, and De Backer T. Arterial hypertension in Turner syndrome: a review of the literature and a practical approach for diagnosis and treatment. JOURNAL OF HYPERTENSION, 2015;33, 1342-1351. Impact factor: 4.72

De Maeseneer DJ, Van Praet C, Lumen N, and Rottey S. Battling resistance mechanisms in antihormonal prostate cancer treatment: Novel agents and combinations. UROLOGIC ONCOLOGY,2015; 33, 310-321. Impact factor: 2.768

Den Hond E, Tournaye H, De Sutter P, Ombelet W, Baeyens W, Covaci A, Cox B, Nawrot TS, Van Larebeke N., and 'Hooghe T. Human exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals and fertility: A case-control study in male subfertility patients. ENVIRONMENT INTERNATIONAL,2015; 84:154-60. Impact factor: 5.559

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Wierckx K, Elaut E, Declercq E, Heylens G, De Cuypere G, Taes Y, et al. Prevalence of cardiovascular disease and cancer during cross-sex hormone therapy in a large cohort of trans persons: a case-control study. *EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF ENDOCRINOLOGY*. 2013;169(4):471–8. Impact factor: 4.069

Vossaert L, O'Leary T, Van Neste C, Heindryckx B, Vandesompele J, De Sutter P, and Deforce D. Reference loci for RT-qPCR analysis of differentiating human embryonic stem cells. *BMC MOLECULAR BIOLOGY*, 2013; 14:21. Impact factor: 2.194

2012

Body J-J, Bergmann P, Boonen S, Devogelaer J-P, Gielen E, Goemaere S, et al. Extraskelatal benefits and risks of calcium, vitamin D and anti-osteoporosis medications. *OSTEOPOROSIS INTERNATIONAL*. 2012;23(suppl. 1):S1–S23. Impact factor: 4.169

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Bruyère O, Rizzoli R, Coxam V, Avouac B, Chevalier T, Fabien-Soulé V, et al. Assessment of health claims in the field of bone: a view of the Group for the Respect of Ethics and Excellence in Science (GREES). *OSTEOPOROSIS INTERNATIONAL*. 2012;23(1):193–9. Impact factor: 4.169

Cooper C, Dere W, Evans W, Kanis J, Rizzoli R, Sayer A, et al. Frailty and sarcopenia: definitions and outcome parameters. *OSTEOPOROSIS INTERNATIONAL*. 2012;23(7):1839–48. Impact factor: 4.169

Cools M, Hoebeke P, Wolffenbuttel KP, Stoop H, Hersmus R, Barbaro M, Wedell A, Bruggenwirth H, Looijenga LH, and Drop SL. Pubertal androgenization and gonadal histology in two 46,XY adolescents with NR5A1 mutations and predominantly female phenotype at birth. *EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF ENDOCRINOLOGY*, 2012; 166, 341-349. Impact factor: 3.936

Elaut E, Buysse A, De Sutter P, De Cuypere G, Gerris J, Deschepper E, et al. Relation of androgen receptor sensitivity and mood to sexual desire in hormonal contraception users. *CONTRACEPTION*. 2012;85(5):470–9. Impact factor: 2.335

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Ferrari S, Bianchi M, Eisman J, Foldes A, Adami S, Wahl D, et al. Osteoporosis in young adults: pathophysiology, diagnosis, and management. *OSTEOPOROSIS INTERNATIONAL*. 2012;23(12):2735–48. Impact factor: 4.169

Fiers T, Casetta B, Bernaert B, Vandersypt E, Debock M, Kaufman J. Development of a highly sensitive method for the quantification of estrone and estradiol in serum by liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry without derivatization. *JOURNAL OF CHROMATOGRAPHY B-ANALYTICAL TECHNOLOGIES IN THE BIOMEDICAL AND LIFE SCIENCES*. 2012;893:57–62. Impact factor: 2.729

Gao C-Q, Kaufman J, Eertmans F, Dhooge W, Fraeyman N. Difference in receptor-binding contributes to difference in biological activity between the unique guinea pig GnRH and mammalian GnRH. NEUROSCIENCE LETTERS. 2012;507(2):124–6. Impact factor: 2.030

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Lumen N, Oosterlinck W, and Hoebeke P. Urethral reconstruction using buccal mucosa or penile skin grafts: systematic review and meta-analysis. UROLOGIA INTERNATIONALIS,2012; 89, 387-394. Impact factor: 1.426

Mahmoud A, T'Sjoen G. Male hormonal contraception: where do we stand? EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF CONTRACEPTION AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE. 2012;17(3):179-86. Impact factor: 1.394

O'Leary T, Duggal G, Lierman S, Van den Abbeel E, Heindryckx B, and De Sutter P. The influence of patient and cohort parameters on the incidence and developmental potential of embryos with poor quality traits for use in human embryonic stem cell derivation. HUMAN REPRODUCTION,2012; 27, 1581-1589. Impact factor: 4.569

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Schober J, Nordenstrom A, Hoebeke P, Lee P, Houk C, Looijenga L, Manzoni G, Reiner W, and Woodhouse C. Disorders of sex development: summaries of long-

term outcome studies. JOURNAL OF PEDIATRIC UROLOGY,2012; 8, 616-623.
Impact factor: 0.898

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between preschool and primary school children: results from the IDEFICS
baseline survey. CALCIFIED TISSUE INTERNATIONAL. 2012;91(4):276–85.
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Sioen I, Mouratidou T, Kaufman J, Bammann K, Michels N, Pigeot I, et al.
Determinants of vitamin D status in young children: results from the Belgian arm
of the IDEFICS (Identification and Prevention of Dietary- and Lifestyle-Induced
Health Effects in Children and Infants) study. PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITION.
2012;15(6):1093–9. Impact factor: 2.679

Vanbillemont G, Lapauw B, Denaeyer H, ROEF G, Kaufman J, Taes Y. Sex
hormone-binding globulin at the crossroad of body composition, somatotrophic
axis and insulin/glucose homeostasis in young healthy men. CLINICAL
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Van Caenegem E, Wierckx K, Taes Y, Dedecker D, Van de Peer F, Toye K, et al.
Bone mass, bone geometry, and body composition in female-to-male transsexual
persons after long-term cross-sex hormonal therapy. JOURNAL OF CLINICAL
ENDOCRINOLOGY & METABOLISM. 2012;97(7):2503–11. Impact factor: 6.209

Vanden Meerschaut F, Nikiforaki D, De Gheselle S, Dullaerts V, Van den Abbeel
E, Gerris J, Heindryckx B, and De Sutter P. Assisted oocyte activation is not
beneficial for all patients with a suspected oocyte-related activation deficiency.
HUMAN REPRODUCTION,2012; 27, 1977-1984. Impact factor: 4.569

Vandenplas G, De Bacquer D, Calders P, Fiers T, Kaufman J, Ouwens DM, et al.
Endogenous oestradiol and cardiovascular disease in healthy men: a systematic
review and meta-analysis of prospective studies. HEART. 2012;98(20):1478–82.
Impact factor: 5.595

Vanlangenhove P, De Keukeleire K, Everaert K, Van Maele G, and Defreyne L. Efficacy and safety of two different n-butyl-2-cyanoacrylates for the embolization of varicoceles: a prospective, randomized, blinded study. *CARDIOVASCULAR AND INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY*,2012; 35, 598-606. Impact factor: 2.071

van Montfoort AP, Hanssen LL, De Sutter P, Viville S, Geraedts JP, and de Boer P. Assisted reproduction treatment and epigenetic inheritance. *HUMAN REPRODUCTION UPDATE*,2012; 18, 171-197. Impact factor: 10.165

Vermassen T, Speeckaert MM, Lumen N, Rottey S, and Delanghe JR. Glycosylation of prostate specific antigen and its potential diagnostic applications. *CLINICA CHIMICA ACTA*,2012; 413, 1500-1505. Impact factor: 2.824

Wierckx K, Mueller S, Weyers S, Van Caenegem E, ROEF G, Heylens G, et al. Long-term evaluation of cross-sex hormone treatment in transsexual persons. *JOURNAL OF SEXUAL MEDICINE*. 2012;9(10):2641–51. Impact factor: 3.151

Wierckx K, STUYVER I, Weyers S, Hamada A, Agarwal A, De Sutter P, et al. Sperm freezing in transsexual women. *ARCHIVES OF SEXUAL BEHAVIOR*. 2012;41(5):1069–71. Impact factor: 2.589

Wierckx K, Van Caenegem E, Pennings G, Elaut E, Dedecker D, Van de Peer F, et al. Reproductive wish in transsexual men. *HUMAN REPRODUCTION*. 2012;27(2):483–7. Impact factor: 4.569

Short CVs

SHORT CV Prof. dr. Jan GERRIS

STUDIES AND GENERAL PROFESSIONAL CURRICULUM

Graduated as MD at the University of Ghent, 1976.

Pre-graduate research experience at the Laboratory for Zoophysiology and the Laboratory of Human and Comparative Anatomy of Ghent University.

Graduate of the Prince Leopold II Institute for Tropical Diseases, Antwerp.

Research Fellow of the National Foundation for Scientific Research.

Postgraduate training in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Ghent University and at the Free University of Brussels.

Registered Specialist in Gynaecology 13/07/81.

Senior staff member Dept. Ob-Gyn Academic Hospital Antwerp 1984-1990.

Head of Dept. Ob-Gyn, Middelheim Hospital Antwerp, 1990-2005.

Doctoral Thesis in the Biomedical Sciences (PhD), University of Antwerp: "A comparative investigation into the real efficacy of traditional versus advanced treatments for male fertility disorders" (1997).

Sector Chairman, Sector Man-Woman and Child, University Hospital Ghent (2007-2016).

Founder and coordinator of the Special Interest Group for Safety and Quality in Assisted Reproductive Medicine of the ESHRE (European Society for Human Reproduction and Embryology) (2002).

Vice-chairman of the Flemish Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (VVOG).

Chairman of the Reproductive Medicine Working Group and of the VVOG (2016-2019).

Associate Editor for Human Reproduction.

Pioneer in the field of minimizing multiple pregnancy after ART by introducing Single Embryo Transfer (SET)

Pioneer in self-operated endo-vaginal tele-monitoring (SOET) in ART.

Member of the VVOG, BSRM, ESHRE and ASRM.

PRESENT FUNCTION:

Advisor to the CEO on network coordination.

Professor of Gynecology, Ghent University.

Chairman of the Scientific Committee of the Flemish Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (VVOG).

PUBLICATIONS

Between 1972 and 2011 a total of >240 publications on obstetrical, gynecological and reproductive subjects, of several chapters in books and editor of books (available upon request) as well as many abstracts.

Continuous participation as invited speaker at or (co)-organizer of national and international symposia and congresses.

CURRENT AREAS OF INTEREST

Clinical human reproduction (male and female), a.o. the SOET project (home sonography).

Artificial reproductive technologies (ART).

Safety and quality of ART.

Azoospermia and MESA/TESE

Research related to male and female reproductive function.

SHORT CV Prof. Dr. Guy T'Sjoen

Guy T'Sjoen, MD, PhD (Prof. Dr.)

Position: Head of the Department of Endocrinology and Metabolic diseases

Work address:

Internal Medicine, Endocrinology - Andrology

Center for Sexology and Gender problems

University Hospital Ghent

9 K 12 IE

De Pintelaan 185

9000 Gent

Belgium

Phone 32 9 332 2137

Fax 32 9 332 3897

guy.tsjoen@ugent.be

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH

July 26, 1970, Oudenaarde, Belgium

NATIONALITY

Belgian

LANGUAGES

Dutch (mother tongue), English, French (fluent), German, Spanish, Greek (basic)

EDUCATION

Post-graduate education

1995-2000 Internal Medicine (University Gent, Belgium)

2000-2001 Endocrinology – Diabetology (University Gent, Belgium)

2001 Clinical Andrology (European Academy of Andrology)

Additional training

1993 English for Medical Study and Practice (University of Edinburgh, U.K.)

2002 Medical Management (Vlerick School Ghent-Leuven, Belgium)

2006 Practical Spanish level 1 + 2 (Talen centrum, Ghent University, Belgium)

- 2006-2010 Greek (Provinciaal Centrum voor Volwassenen Onderwijs, Ghent, Belgium)
- 2009-2010 Management Development training (University Hospital Ghent, Belgium)
- 2012 The School of Sexual Medicine (St. Catherine's College, Oxford, UK)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- 1995 Medical Practice License, Ghent, Belgium
- 2000 Internal Medicine Certification, Ghent, Belgium
- 2001 Endocrinology Certification, Ghent, Belgium
- 2002 Clinical Andrology Certification, Malmö, Sweden
- 2014 Fellow of The European Committee on Sexual Medicine, Istanbul, Turkey

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

- Belgian Endocrine Society (member, board member since 2010)
- Endocrine Society (member)
- European Society of Endocrinology (member)
- The World Professional Association for Transgender Health (member)
- International Society for Sexual Medicine (member)
- Belgian Society of Sexual Medicine (board member- founding member, scientific committee president)
- International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) (medical expert eligibility of athletes who have undergone sex reassignment).
- The European Professional Association for Transgender Health (founding member)

SCIENTIFIC AWARDS

Belgian Endocrine Society Annual Lecture Award 2009: Endocrine care in treatment of transsexualism.

Y. Taes, G. T'Sjoen, B. Lapauw, S. Simoens, E. Van Caenegem, S. Goemaere, H. Zmierckzak, J.M. Kaufman. Volumetric bone mass and muscle size in male-to-female transsexuals. Poster prize at Belgian Congress of Rheumatology 2009.

Award "Lucien De Coninck" for research in transsexualism 22.04.2012

MEMBERSHIP OF EDITORIAL BOARDS OF SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS

- International Journal of Transgenderism (associate editor)
- Belgian Journal for Sexual Health
- Andrologic

Other Activities

- More than a 100 peer reviewed publications indexed in Pubmed, mostly on sexual medicine and gender.
- Participated to many books as editor\co-editor or author\co-author
- Received many National and international grants.
- Regular referee for many international journals

Short CV Prof. Dr. Petra De Sutter

WORK EXPERIENCE

August 1987–July 1994

Full time assistant at the dept. Obstetrics & Gynaecology University Hospital Ghent, (Belgium)

January 1989–December 1990

Responsible for the Laboratory for In Vitro Fertilization (IVF), Dept Ob/gyn University Hospital Ghent, (Belgium)

August 1994–Present Recognition as specialist in gynaecology-obstetrics, University Hospital Ghent, (Belgium)

August 1994–April 1999

Full-time staff member (Vice Clinic Head) of the (Dept Ob/Gyn) Ghent. Supervisor of the Centre for University Hospital Ghent, (Belgium)

April 1999–October 2008

Clinic Head University Hospital Ghent, (Belgium)

March 2006–October 2008

Responsible of the IVF laboratory and the IVF research team University Hospital Ghent, (Belgium)

October 2008–Present

Head of the division for reproductive medicine/Dept Ob/Gyn, University Hospital Ghent, (Belgium)

October 2005–Present

Assignment to fundamental clinical mandate Flemish Foundation for Scientific Research, (Belgium)

October 2000–Present

Professor in Reproductive Medicine University Ghent, (Belgium)

July 2014–Present

Senator Senate, (Belgium)

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

October 1980–July 1991 MD PhD, Medicine University Ghent, (Belgium) MD - Doctor in medicine, surgery and obstetrics PhD - Biomedical sciences

January 1991–December 1992 Research fellow Reproductive Genetics Institute, Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Chicago, (United States) In vitro fertilization, micromanipulation and preimplantation genetic diagnosis, Dr.Y.Verlinsky) and the Laboratory for experimental embryology (Prof. Dr. A. Dyban)

September 1991–October 1991 Laboratory for Andrology Stony Brook University, New York, (United States) Study Visit

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Expertise Prof. Dr. Petra De Sutter studied medical sciences at the University of Ghent and graduated in 1987. In 1991 she received her PhD in Biomedical sciences, and she stayed in 1991 and 1992 in Chicago, where she conducted fundamental research into the genetics of human and mouse oocytes. In 1994 she also received her recognition as a specialist in gynaecology and obstetrics. In 1994 she obtained a second PhD and in 2000 she was appointed as a professor at the University of Ghent.

Currently, she is full professor at the University of Ghent and Head of the Department of Reproductive Medicine at the University Hospital Ghent. As a gynaecologist, she exclusively deals with the diagnosis and treatment of cycle disturbances and fertility problems. Especially PCOS and all techniques of medically assisted reproduction belong to her area of interest.

She is the holder of a fundamental clinical research mandate of the Flemish Foundation for Scientific Research, and manages a team of twelve researchers working on the subjects of embryonic stem cells, oocyte activation and fertility preservation. Besides, she is also a member of numerous councils and committees, like the Council of the University of Ghent, the University Hospital of Ghent, Senator, the Royal Academy of Medicine, Council of Europe. She wrote more than 300 publications in peer reviewed

journals, as chapters in books or proceedings, and (co-)authored more than 375 conference communications.

Short CV Dr. Ahmed Mahmoud

Current employment

- November 92-present: Scientific collaborator & coordinator, Center for Andrology, University Hospital Gent, Belgium.

Qualifications and certifications

- Certified Clinical Andrologist (European Academy of Andrology, 2000)
- Certified Academician (European Academy of Andrology, 2014)
- Doctor in Dermatology and Andrology (Egypt, 1996)
- Doctor in Medical sciences (Ghent, Belgium, 2003)
- Together with Prof. F. Comhaire, successfully got the Andrology Center of Ghent, Belgium EAA certified in 2002.
- Member of the Belgian Expert Group on Semen analysis.

Scientific and editorial skills

- Co-editor of the World Health Organization male infertility clinical manual (WHO 2000).
- More than a 100 papers and chapters in scientific journals and books.
- Regular reviewer for international journals including British Medical Journal, International Journal of Andrology (formerly), Human Reproduction, Fertility and Sterility, Asian Journal of Andrology, Andrologia, and others.
- Good user of text editors, statistical software and reference managers.

Languages

- Fluent in English, Dutch and Arabic.
- Some French.

SHORT CV Prof. Dr. Karel Everaert

Name: Karel CMM Everaert

Current Employment:

Position: Head of Clinics Functional Urology, Professor in Neurourology

Work Address: UZ Ghent, De Pintelaan 185, 9000 Ghent, Belgium

www.kareleveraert.be

Academic Qualifications

Qualification / Specialization	Year	College / University / Institution
Medical Doctor	1988	University of Ghent
Training resident Urology	1988-1993	University of Ghent
Ph. D	1999	University of Ghent

Details of Clinical and Scientific Experience:

European board of Urology since 1994

Head of clinics since 1999

Professor Neurourology since 2001

More than 50 clinical trials in neuro – urology and incontinence

More than 80 peer reviewed publications in domain of Functional Urology and more than 30 in lower ranked and local journals

Co-author in 11 books

Currently active in clinical research on nocturnal polyuria, incontinence/LUTS in elderly, urinary catheters and bladder management and sacral neuromodulation

Short CV Dr. Maarten Albersen , M D - P h D - F E C S M

Institutional address: Dept. of Urology, UZ Leuven, Herestraat 49, 3000 Leuven, BE

maarten.albersen@uzleuven.be | +32 (0)486334999

° Heerlen (NL) February 5 th, 1981 | nationality: Netherlands

E D U C A T I O N

- 1993-1999: Atheneum: Stella Maris College, Meerssen, Netherlands.
- 1999-2002: BSc (medicine), Limburgs Universitair Centrum, Diepenbeek, Belgium.
- 2002-2006: MD: Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium. Cum Laude.
- 2009-2012: PhD (medicine): Molecular and Stem Cell Medicine, Leuven International Doctoral School of Biomedical Sciences, Leuven, Belgium.
- 2014: Fellow of the European Committee of Sexual Medicine (FECSM)

E M P L O Y M E N T H I S T O R Y

- 2006-2008: resident in General Surgery: AZ St. Jozef Turnhout, Belgium.
- 2008-2009: resident in General Surgery & Urology: University Hospitals Leuven, Belgium.
- 2009-2010: basic research fellow: Knuppe Molecular Urology Laboratory, University of California at San Francisco, US.
- 2010-2012: basic research fellow: Experimental Urology Laboratory, University Hospitals Leuven / PhD fellow of the
- Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO) & Urological Research Institute, Vita-Salute San Raffaele University, Milan.
- 2012-2013: resident in Urology: Atrium Medical Centre, Heerlen, Netherlands.
- 2013-2014: senior resident in Urology: University Hospitals Leuven, Belgium.
- Current: adjunct head of clinic & postdoctoral researcher, University Hospitals Leuven, Belgium & University of Leuven, Belgium
- Current: (part-time) clinical fellow, University College Hospitals London: benign andrology and penile cancer
- Belgian medical license (RIZIV): 1-19991-95-450 (bijzondere beroepstitel geneesheer-specialist urologie)
- UK medical license (GMC): 7520666 (fully registered medical practitioner with specialist registration urology)

ACADEMIC & RESEARCH INTERESTS

- (Male) sexual dysfunction
- Cavernous nerve injury, pathophysiology and autonomic neuroregeneration; Galanin (PhD-student: Emmanuel Weyne)
- Pelvic nerve injury, pathophysiology of underactive bladder disease; smooth muscle phenotypical switch (PhD-student: Karel Dewulf)
- Peyronie's disease, pathophysiology and regenerative medicine applications (PhD-student Fabio Castiglione)
- PhD: The treatment of Erectile Dysfunction Following Cavernous Nerve Injury with Adipose Tissue Derived Stem Cells.

INVITED SPEAKER (international): 25 occasions

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS: 49 peer-reviewed publications IF:1-14 total citations: 921, h-Index :18, i10 index: 25

NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS: 12 papers/comments, 7 chapters

GRANTS AND AWARDS: Awardee or primary applicant on 16 grants and awards totaling € 138.000 + FWO "aspirant" mandate + FWO stay abroad

PANELS AND COMMITTEES:

- 2012-2014: Chair of the ESSM committee for preclinical sexual research.
- 2012-current: Member of the advisory board for 'Nature Reviews Urology' (IF 4.8), Nature Publishing Group.
- 2013-current: Member of the Young Academic Urologists Working Party (EAU), Men's health expert group
- 2014-current: Chair ESSM scientific committee (organization of annual conference 1250 attendees: essm.org)
- 2014-current international advisory board for the Journal of Clinical Urology
- 2014-current: Assistant editor J. Sex Med (IF 3.5), basic science.
- 2015: Chair of the ICSM committee for future treatment targets in male sexual dysfunction.

EAA Andrology Training Center
Initial accreditation
Centre Report

2015

Centre identification

Andrology Center, University Hospital Ghent, Belgium

CENTRE REPORT

Name and address of Centre

Andrology Center, University Hospital Ghent
De Pintelaan 185, B-9000 Ghent, Belgium

Type of Centre

University
University Hospital
Private Centre

Other (please specify)

1. Director

Prof. Dr. Jan Gerris (Clinical coordinator)

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

Prof. Dr. Guy T'Sjoen

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

Prof. Dr. Karel Everaert

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

2a. Clinical responsible

Prof. Dr. Jan Gerris

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

2b. Clinical responsible

Prof. Dr. Guy T'Sjoen

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

2c. Clinical responsible

Prof. Dr. Karel Everaert

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

3. Present Staff (*Senior Scientists*)

- 1) Name Guy T'Sjoen
 Degree Prof. Dr.
 Speciality Endocrinologist-andrologist
- Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist
- 2) Name Jan Gerris
 Degree Prof. Dr.
 Speciality Gynecologist
- Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist
- 3) Name Ahmed Mahmoud (Scientific advisor)
 Degree Dr.
 Speciality Andrologist
- Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist
- 4) Name Petra De Sutter
 Degree Prof. Dr.
 Speciality Gynecologist
- Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist
- 5) Name Piet Hoebeke
 Degree Prof. Dr.
 Speciality Urologist
- Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist
- 6) Name Nicolaas Lumen
 Degree Prof. Dr.
 Speciality Urologist
- Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist
- 7) Name Francois Hervé
 Degree Prof. Dr.
 Speciality Urologist
- Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

8) Name Maarten Albersen
Degree Dr.
Speciality Urologist

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

Insert any additional staff below (if required)

MD/Biologists/Chemists

1) Name Katrien Wierckx
 Degree Assistant
 Speciality Endocrinology
 Full time/part time Full time

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

2) Name Loes Moernaut
 Degree Assistant
 Speciality Endocrinology
 Full time/part time Full time

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

3) Name Jeroen Desmet
 Degree Assistant
 Speciality Gynecology
 Full time/part time Full time

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

4) Name _____
 Degree _____
 Speciality _____
 Full time/part time _____

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

5) Name _____
 Degree _____
 Speciality _____
 Full time/part time _____

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

6) Name _____
 Degree _____
 Speciality _____
 Full time/part time _____

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

7) Name _____
 Degree _____

Speciality _____
 Full time/part time _____

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

8) Name _____
 Degree _____
 Speciality _____
 Full time/part time _____

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

9) Name _____
 Degree _____
 Speciality _____
 Full time/part time _____

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

10) Name _____
 Degree _____
 Speciality _____
 Full time/part time _____

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

11) Name _____
 Degree _____
 Speciality _____
 Full time/part time _____

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

12) Name _____
 Degree _____
 Speciality _____
 Full time/part time _____

Academician Affiliated Member Clinical Andrologist

Insert any additional staff below *(if required)*

Specialists

- 1) Name _____
2) Name _____
3) Name _____
4) Name _____
5) Name _____

PhD Students

- 1) Name Joke Vandamme
2) Name Charlotte Verroken
3) Name Frederique Van de Velde

Nurses

- 1) Name A. Hutse
2) Name _____
3) Name _____

Laboratory Technicians

- 1) Name Jonas Decreus
2) Name Chrissie van Hoomissen
3) Name _____

Administrative Personnel

- 1) Name E. Van Keymeulen
2) Name I. Vangestel
3) Name _____

4. Clinical Activity

A. Outpatients: Consultations per year in the last 3 years

	2013	2014	2015
New patients	1067	1168	1200
Follow-up patients	719	734	750

Type of patients in the last years (%)	2013	2014	2015
Infertility	418 (39.2%)	438 (41.0%)	421 (35.1%)
Erectile dysfunction	29 (2.7%)	30 (2.8%)	45 (3.8%)
Hypogonadotropic Hypogonadism	74 (6.9%)	93 (8.7%)	112 (9.3%)
Klinefelter	33 (3.1%)	33 (3.1%)	45 (3.8%)
Gynaecomastia	19 (1.8%)	22 (2.1%)	33 (2.8%)
Varicocele	40 (3.7%)	42 (3.9%)	41 (3.4%)
Cryptorchidism	34 (3.2%)	35 (3.3%)	39 (3.3%)
Male sex accessory gland infections	34 (3.2%)	33 (3.1%)	33 (2.8%)
Testicular tumours	4 (0.4%)	5 (0.5%)	4 (0.3%)
Disorders of gender identity	345 (32.3%)	398 (37.3%)	392 (32.7%)
Other	90 (8.4%)	92 (8.6%)	97 (8.1%)

B. Ultrasound (testis) *

	2013	2014	2015
Total	199	203	206
Controls	45	49	52

* penile, prostate at urology, radiology, statistics not available

C. Andrological surgery procedures

	2013	2014	2015
Testicular biopsies	94	95	97
Varicocele ligation	15	11	10
Varicocele embolization	63	58	60
Prostate biopsies	89	117	122
BPH	81	113	130
Prostate cancer	47	72	78
Vasectomy	64	76	79
Vaso-vasostomy	19	10	12
Other			

5. A. Andrology laboratory activity

	2013	2014	2015
Semen analyses	961	885	912
Sperm antibodies	714	650	671
Seminal markers	930	850	882

5. B. Andrology laboratory activity

Sperm banking donors Yes No Sperm banking cancer patients Yes No

<i>If yes:</i>			
	2013	2014	2015
Number of samples	515	308	316

5. C. Histopathological evaluation of biopsies Yes No 5. D. Reproductive Hormones Assays Yes No

If yes please specify type of assays and number of samples in the last year
Reproductive Hormones Assays (FSH, LH, testosterone, SHBG, prolactin)

All patients are tested for testosterone, LH, FSH, prolactin, TSH, T4. Other
hormones are tested where indicated e.g. E2 cortisol, and many others

5. E. Y chromosome microdeletions according to EAA/EMQN guidelines Yes No

196

If yes number of tests in the past yearParticipation to the EAA quality control scheme? Yes No *If no*, specify if available in another lab of the same hospital Yes No Blood karyotyping Yes No *If no*, specify if available in another lab of the same hospital Yes No

Other genetic tests (please specify)

CAVD (CFTR), Spinal muscular atrophy (SMN1), Prader-Willi syndrome, Kallman
syndrome, Disorder of sexual development (Androgen receptor, NR5A1, SOX9, WT1,
SRY, DMRT1) Amniotic fluid karyotyping, Pre-implantation Genetic diagnosis.

6. Collaborations with other Clinical Units of the University/Hospital

IVF Unit

Yes No

If yes please specify: Children, Endocrinology, IVF, Urology, Genetics, Pathology

Urology Clinic

Yes No

Endocrine Clinic

Yes No

Genetics Lab/Unit

Yes No

Paediatric Unit

Yes No

Central Hospital Laboratory

Yes No

Private Centres

Yes No

If yes please specify:

7. Clinical teaching activity

Duration of training (years):

	Number
A: Trainees in the last five years	3
B: Trainees who passed EAA-ESAU\exam for Clinical Andrologist in the last 5 yrs	0
C: Trainees working in the centre preparing to pass the EAA-ESAU examination	3
D: PhD Students	8
E: Medical Students	15
F: Other students (MSc)	

8. Formal Andrology teaching program

Yes No

If yes: specify duration (years/months):

Years Months

	Hours of formal teaching per year	Professional training (weeks/months)
Medical Students	1	4 hours per year
PhD Students		
Post Graduate students		
Trainees		
Other degrees (please specify)		

9. Research Activity (maximum 1 page)

Please shortly describe the main research topics of the center and list the most relevant papers in peer review journals (with IF) related to these activities.

The full list of publications (years 2010 - 2015) are presented at the end of this report.

The main research topics of the center are male aging, bone health, androgens, gender identity disorders, transsexuality, sexual dysfunction, stem cell research and the etiology and treatment of male infertility and fertilization failure.

Extensive research has been performed on the interaction between hormones, genes and bone health. The aging male is a prominent research topic at our center, including late-onset hypogonadism, osteoporosis, general health, mortality and the prostate.

Large fundings have been granted to our center which were dedicated to research on disorders of sexual development, gender identity disorders, transexualism and sexual function, including genetic, hormonal, surgical, reproductive, psychological and social aspects.

Studies on male infertility cover diverse topics ranging from the effect of environmental factors and varicocele to in depth studies of fertilization failure at molecular and enzymatic level.

Most relevant publications

Den Hond E, Tournaye H, De Sutter P, Ombelet W, Baeyens W, Covaci A, Cox B, Nawrot TS, Van Larebeke N., and 'Hooghe T. Human exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals and fertility: A case-control study in male subfertility patients. ENVIRONMENT INTERNATIONAL,2015; 84:154-60. Impact factor: 5.559

Durban M, Barragan M, Colodron M, Ferrer-Buitrago M, De Sutter P, Heindryckx B, Vernaev V, and Vassena R. PLCzeta disruption with complete fertilization failure in normozoospermia. JOURNAL OF ASSISTED REPRODUCTION AND GENETICS,2015; 32, 879-886. Impact factor: 1.72

Hamada A, Kingsberg S, Wierckx K, T'Sjoen G, De Sutter P, Knudson G, and Agarwal A. Semen characteristics of transwomen referred for sperm banking before sex transition: a case series. ANDROLOGIA, 2015;47, 832-838. *Impact factor: 1.63*

Mahmoud AM. Sperm DNA damage and ART: sins of the fathers and the doctors? HUMAN REPRODUCTION, 2015;30, 491-492. Impact factor: 4.569

Pirnay JP, Baudoux E, Cornu O, Delforge A, Delloye C, Guns J, Heinen E, Van den Abbeel E, Vanderkelen A, Van Geyt C et al. Access to human tissues for research and product development: From EU regulation to alarming legal developments in Belgium. EMBO REPORTS,2015; 16, 557-562. Impact factor: 9.055

Spinioit AF, Van Praet C, Groen LA, Van Laecke E, Praet M, and Hoebeke P. Congenital penile pathology is associated with abnormal development of the dartos muscle: a prospective study of primary penile surgery at a tertiary referral center. THE JOURNAL OF UROLOGY,2015; 193, 1620-1624. Impact factor: 4.471

Van Caenegem E, Wierckx K, Taes Y, Schreiner T, Vandewalle S, Toye K, Kaufman JM, and T'Sjoen G. Preservation of volumetric bone density and geometry in trans women during

cross-sex hormonal therapy: a prospective observational study. *OSTEOPOROSIS INTERNATIONAL*, 2015;26, 35-47. Impact factor: 4.169

Van der Jeught M, O'Leary T, Duggal G, De Sutter P, Chuva de Sousa LS, and Heindryckx B. The post-inner cell mass intermediate: implications for stem cell biology and assisted reproductive technology. *HUMAN REPRODUCTION UPDATE*,2015; 21, 616-626. Impact factor: 10.165

Heylens G, Verroken C, De Cock S, T'Sjoen G, De Cuypere G. Effects of different steps in gender reassignment therapy on psychopathology: a prospective study of persons with a gender identity disorder. *JOURNAL OF SEXUAL MEDICINE*. 2014;11(1):119-26. Impact factor: 3.151

Kaufman J. Mortality associated to late-onset hypogonadism: reasons not to treat with testosterone? *JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ENDOCRINOLOGY AND METABOLISM*. 2014;99(4):1161-3. Impact factor: 5.531

Vanlangenhove P, Everaert K, Van Maele G, and Defreyne L. Tolerance of glue embolization under local anesthesia in varicoceles: a comparative study of two different cyanoacrylates. *EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF RADIOLOGY*,2014; 83, 559-563. Impact factor: 2.369

10. Research Funding

Please specify the amount of available funds in the last 3 years and their source (Government, European Union, University, Local Government, Pharmaceutical Industries, Banks, Foundations....)

Year	2011-2014 (Sexpert 2)
Total amount (€)	1.808.456 €
Funding Source(s)	Flemish government

Year	2012-2016 Violence on the basis of transgenderism
Total amount (€)	217.900€
Funding Source(s)	Flemish government

Year	2012-2015 Equal chances in Flanders
Total amount (€)	276.000 €
Funding Source(s)	Flemish government

Year	2013-2015 Translation and maintenance of the website Transgenderinfo.be
Total amount (€)	25.000 €
Funding Source(s)	Flemish government

Year	2013 Improving transgender care in Flanders
Total amount (€)	20.000 €
Funding Source(s)	Flemish government

Year	2015-2016 Government guidelines for gender identity/expression
Total amount (€)	30.388 €
Funding Source(s)	Flemish government

Year	2015-2016 Intersex persons in Belgium: an analysis
Total amount (€)	40.570 €
Funding Source(s)	Flemish government

Source(s)	
Year	2015 Improving support of partners of transsexuals
Total amount (€)	42.925 €
Funding Source(s)	Flemish government
Year	2014-2016 The clinical relevance of DNA fragmentation of sperm in the treatment of unexplained infertility by intrauterine insemination
Total amount (€)	---
Funding Source(s)	Self-funded
Year	2016 The RIF study: The effect of antioxidant treatment on IVF results (in preparation)
Total amount (€)	Yet undetermined
Funding Source(s)	industry sponsored

ORGANIZATION CHARTS

Organization charts legend: Department / Unit Structure

Unit Name
Head
Staff member 1 Staff member 2 Staff member 3 Staff member 4
Outpatient Clinics Embryology Ovarian stimulation Ultrasound Oocyte retrieval Embryo transfer FNA / TESE
Diagnosis of infertility Counseling of infertile couple Cryopreservation of sperm Ethics in Andrology



Unit name: Andrology Center University Hospital Ghent



Head: J. Gerris (clinical co-ordinator), G. T'Sjoen, K. Everaert



Staff members:

J. Gerris	P De Sutter
G. T'Sjoen	P Hoebeke
A. Mahmoud (scientific co-ordinator)	
K. Everaert	N Lumen
F Hervé	M Albersen



Clinical services

For historical reasons, the intake of andrological patients occurs at endocrinology, gynecology and urology.



A central intake and a single phone number via endocrinology and a standardized approach have been developed and are gradually being implemented.

Highly qualified and certified personell (EAA, ESHRE, ESSM etc) provide good clinical services including diagnosis and management, genetic and psychological counseling

State of the art equipment and certified laboratories are available for imaging techniques, laboratory tests, surgical and radiological treatment, tissue cryopreservation and assisted reproductive techniques including assisted hatching and artificial oocyte activation. Members of our staff are active in ethics commissions at local, national (including parliament) and international levels. In 2016, the andrology center has moved to a new location in the close vicinity of IVF lab and the urology department. The andrology lab has been integrated in the IVF lab

Contribution to EAA training program

Three assistants are being trained (2 from endocrinology and 1 from gynecology). They are eager to get EAA certified in the coming years.

Our staff, facilities, and varied pathologies among our patients provide excellent training opportunities in all fields of andrology including infertility, sexual dysfunction, and diagnostic, therapeutic, endocrine, urological, gynecological, genetic, psychological and ethical aspects of andrology

Examples of training activities

Permanent training in sexology at Ghent University started in 2012

The 5th International DSD symposium, DSD including a training course, Ghent, 2015

First biennial conference of the European Professional Association for Transgender Health: Transgender Health Care in Europe, Ghent, Belgium, 2015

Semen analysis courses, Scientific institute of Public Health, Brussels, Belgium

FULL LIST OF PUBLICATIONS (with IF) of staff members from the last 5 years**2015**

Bekaert M, Van Nieuwenhove Y, Calders P, Cuvelier CA, Batens AH, Kaufman JM, Ouwens DM, and Ruige JB. Determinants of testosterone levels in human male obesity. *ENDOCRINE*; 2015;50, 202-211. Impact factor: 3.878

Beysens M, Palminteri E, Oosterlinck W, Spinoit AF, Hoebeke P, Francois P, Decaestecker K, and Lumen N. Anastomotic Repair versus Free Graft Urethroplasty for Bulbar Strictures: A Focus on the Impact on Sexual Function. *ADVANCES in UROLOGY*,2015; 2015:912438.

Callens N, Bronselaer G, De Sutter P, De Cuyper G, T'Sjoen G, Hoebeke P, and Cools M. Costs of pleasure and the benefits of pain: self-perceived genital sensation, anatomy and sexual dysfunction. *SEXUAL HEALTH*, 2015 Nov 16. doi: 10.1071/SH15160. [Epub ahead of print]. Impact factor: 1.368

Callens N, De Cuyper G, T'Sjoen G, Monstrey S, Lumen N, Van Laecke E, Hoebeke P, and Cools M. Sexual quality of life after total phalloplasty in men with penile deficiency: an exploratory study. *WORLD JOURNAL OF UROLOGY*, 2015;33, 137-143. Impact factor: 2.666

Chowdhury S, Birtle A, Bjartell A, Costa L, Feyerabend S, Galli L, Lumen N, Kalinka-Warzocha E, Maroto P, Matveev V et al. The Prostate Cancer Registry: Analysis of Medical Resource Utilisation (Mru) in An International, Prospective, Observational Study of Men with Metastatic Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer (Mcrpc). *VALUE IN HEALTH*,2015; 18, A482. Impact factor: 3.279

Claeys T, Van Praet C, Lumen N, Ost P, Fonteyne V, De Meerleer G, Lambert B, Delrue L, De Visschere P, Villeirs G et al. Salvage pelvic lymph node dissection in recurrent prostate cancer: surgical and early oncological outcome. *BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL*,2015; 2015:198543. Impact factor: 1.579

Comhaire F and Mahmoud A (2015) The andrologist's contribution to a better life for ageing men: part 1. *ANDROLOGIA*, 2015 Sep 22. doi: 10.1111/and.12485. [Epub ahead of print]. Impact factor: 1.63

Comhaire F and Mahmoud A (2015) The andrologist's contribution to a better life for ageing men: part 2. *ANDROLOGIA*, 2015 Sep 22. doi: 10.1111/and.12489. [Epub ahead of print]. Impact factor: 1.63

Cools M, Goemaere S, Baetens D, Raes A, Desloovere A, Kaufman JM, De Schepper J, Jans I, Vanderschueren D, Billen J et al. Calcium and bone homeostasis in heterozygous carriers of CYP24A1 mutations: A cross-sectional study. *BONE*, 2015;81, 89-96. Impact factor: 3.973

De Caestecker K, Lumen N, Spinoit AF, Everaert K, Fiers T, and Oosterlinck W. Varicocele: the origin of benign prostatic hypertrophy? Testosterone dosages in the periprostatic plexus. *ACTA CLINICA BELGICA*, 2015; 20., [Epub ahead of print]. Impact factor: 0.518

De Groote K, Demulier L, De Backer J, De Wolf D, De Schepper J, T'Sjoen G, and De Backer T. Arterial hypertension in Turner syndrome: a review of the literature and a practical approach for diagnosis and treatment. *JOURNAL OF HYPERTENSION*, 2015;33, 1342-1351. Impact factor: 4.72

De Maeseneer DJ, Van Praet C, Lumen N, and Rottey S. Battling resistance mechanisms in antihormonal prostate cancer treatment: Novel agents and combinations. *UROLOGIC ONCOLOGY*, 2015; 33, 310-321. Impact factor: 2.768

Den Hond E, Tournaye H, De Sutter P, Ombelet W, Baeyens W, Covaci A, Cox B, Nawrot TS, Van Larebeke N., and 'Hooghe T. Human exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals and fertility: A case-control study in male subfertility patients. *ENVIRONMENT INTERNATIONAL*, 2015; 84:154-60. Impact factor: 5.559

De Visschere PJ, Naesens L, Libbrecht L, Van Praet C, Lumen N, Fonteyne V, Pattyn E, and Villeirs G. What kind of prostate cancers do we miss on multiparametric magnetic resonance imaging? *EUROPEAN RADIOLOGY*, 2015. Jul 3. [Epub ahead of print]. Impact factor: 4.014

Devos J, Van Praet C, Decaestecker K, Claeys T, Fonteyne V, Decalf V, De Meerleer G, Ost P, and Lumen N. Cognitive factors influencing treatment decision-making

in patients with localised prostate cancer: development of a standardised questionnaire. *ACTA CLINICA BELGICA*,2015; 70, 272-279. Impact factor: 0.518

Dierckx M, Motmans J, Mortelmans D, and T'Sjoen G. Families in transition: A literature review. *INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF PSYCHIATRY*, 2015;1-8. Impact factor: 1.966

Duggal G, Warriar S, Ghimire S, Broekaert D, Van der Jeught M, Lierman S, Deroo T, Peelman L, Van Soom A, Cornelissen R et al. Alternative Routes to Induce Naive Pluripotency in Human Embryonic Stem Cells. *STEM CELLS*,2015; 33, 2686-2698. Impact factor: 6.523

Duggal G, Heindryckx B, Warriar S, Taelman J, Van der Jeught M, Deforce D, Chuva de Sousa LS, and De Sutter P. Exogenous supplementation of Activin A enhances germ cell differentiation of human embryonic stem cells. *MOLECULAR HUMAN REPRODUCTION*,2015; 21, 410-423. Impact factor: 3.747

Durban M, Barragan M, Colodron M, Ferrer-Buitrago M, De Sutter P, Heindryckx B, Vernaeve V, and Vassena R. PLCzeta disruption with complete fertilization failure in normozoospermia. *JOURNAL OF ASSISTED REPRODUCTION AND GENETICS*,2015; 32, 879-886. Impact factor: 1.72

Elaut E, Buysse A, Caen M, Vandamme J, Vermeire K, and T'Sjoen G. Contraceptive use in Flanders (Belgium): A comparison between a general population sample and a Turkish ethnic minority sample. *EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF CONTRACEPTION AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE*, 2015;20, 283-295. Impact factor: 1.394

Fiers T and Kaufman JM Management of hypogonadism: is there a role for salivary testosterone. *ENDOCRINE*, 2015;50, 1-3. Impact factor: 3.878

Fonteyne V, Sadeghi S, Ost P, Vanpachtenbeke F, Vuye P, Lumen N, and De Meerleer G. Impact of changing rectal dose volume parameters over time on late rectal and urinary toxicity after high-dose intensity-modulated radiotherapy for prostate cancer: A 10-years single centre experience. *ACTA ONCOLOGICA*,2015; 54, 854-861. Impact factor: 2.997

Fuss J, Hellweg R, Van Caenegem E, Briken P, Stalla GK, T'Sjoen G, and Auer MK. Cross-sex hormone treatment in male-to-female transsexual persons reduces serum brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF). *EUROPEAN NEUROPSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY*, 2015;25, 95-99. Impact factor: 4.369

Hamada A, Kingsberg S, Wierckx K, T'Sjoen G, De Sutter P, Knudson G, and Agarwal A. Semen characteristics of transwomen referred for sperm banking before sex transition: a case series. *ANDROLOGIA*, 2015;47, 832-838. Impact factor: 1.63

Lierman S, Tilleman K, Cornelissen M, De Vos WH, Weyers S, T'Sjoen G, Cuvelier CA, and De Sutter P. Follicles of various maturation stages react differently to enzymatic isolation: a comparison of different isolation protocols. *REPRODUCTIVE BIOMEDICINE ONLINE*, 2015;30, 181-190. Impact factor: 3.015

Masi L, Agnusdei D, Bilezikian J, Chappard D, Chapurlat R, Cianferotti L, Devogelaer JP, El MA, Ferrari S, Javaid MK et al. Taxonomy of rare genetic metabolic bone disorders. *OSTEOPOROS INTERNATIONAL*, 2015;26, 2529-2558. Impact factor: 4.169

Mahmoud AM. Sperm DNA damage and ART: sins of the fathers and the doctors? *HUMAN REPRODUCTION*, 2015;30, 491-492. Impact factor: 4.569

Mueller SC, Verwilt T, Van Branteghem A, T'Sjoen G, and Cools M. The contribution of the androgen receptor (AR) in human spatial learning and memory: A study in women with complete androgen insensitivity syndrome (CAIS). *HORMONES AND BEHAVIOR*, 2015;78, 121-126. Impact factor: 4.632

Neupane J, Ghimire S, Vandewoestyne M, Lu Y, Gerris J, Van Coster R., Deroo T, Deforce D, Vansteelandt S, De Sutter P et al. Cellular Heterogeneity in the Level of mtDNA Heteroplasmy in Mouse Embryonic Stem Cells. *CELL REPORTS*, 2015; 13, 1304-1309. Impact factor: 8.358

Nikiforaki D, Vanden Meerschaut F, de RC, Lu Y, Ferrer-Buitrago M, De Sutter P., and Heindryckx B. Effect of two assisted oocyte activation protocols used to

overcome fertilization failure on the activation potential and calcium releasing pattern. *FERTILITY AND STERILITY*,2015; 10. Impact factor: 4.590

Palminteri E, Berdondini E, Lumen N, Maruccia S, Florio M, Franco G, Montanaro V, and Di Pierro GB. Kulkarni Dorso-Lateral Graft Urethroplasty Using Penile Skin. *UROLOGY*,2015; 10. Impact factor: 2.188

Palminteri E, Lumen N, Berdondini E, Di Pierro GB, Cucchiarale G, Tenti G, and De Nunzio C. Two-sided dorsal plus ventral oral graft bulbar urethroplasty: long-term results and predictive factors. *UROLOGY*,2015; 85, 942-947. Impact factor: 2.188

Pirnay JP, Baudoux E, Cornu O, Delforge A, Delloye C, Guns J, Heinen E, Van den Abbeel E, Vanderkelen A, Van Geyt C et al. Access to human tissues for research and product development: From EU regulation to alarming legal developments in Belgium. *EMBO REPORTS*,2015; 16, 557-562. Impact factor: 9.055

Poelaert F, Van Praet C, Beerens AS, De Meerleer G, Fonteyne V, Ost P, and Lumen N. The role of androgen receptor expression in the curative treatment of prostate cancer with radiotherapy: a pilot study. *BIOMED RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL*,2015; 2015:812815. Impact factor: 1.579

Prytula A, Walle JV, Van Vlierberghe H, Kaufman JM, Fiers T, Dehoorne J, and Raes A. Factors associated with 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D concentrations in liver transplant recipients: a prospective observational longitudinal study. *ENDOCRINE*, 2015 Oct 3. [Epub ahead of print]. Impact factor: 3.878

Ravelingien A, Provoost V, Wyverkens E, Buysse A, De Sutter P, and Pennings G. Recipients' views on payment of sperm donors. *REPRODUCTIVE BIOMEDICINE ONLINE*,2015; 31, 225-231. Impact factor: 3.015

Rozenberg S, Body JJ, Bruyere O, Bergmann P, Brandi ML, Cooper C, Devogelaer JP, Gielen E, Goemaere S, Kaufman JM et al. Effects of Dairy Products Consumption on Health: Benefits and Beliefs-A Commentary from the Belgian Bone Club and the European Society for Clinical and Economic Aspects of

Osteoporosis, Osteoarthritis and Musculoskeletal Diseases. *CALCIFIED TISSUE INTERNATIONAL*, 2015 Oct 7. [Epub ahead of print]. Impact factor: 3.272

Sajevets T, Verroken C, Heylens G, De BE, and T'Sjoen G. Mother and daughter became father and son: a case report. *ASIAN JOURNAL OF ANDROLOGY*, 2015;17, 855-856. Impact factor: 2.596

Spinoit AF, Van Praet C, Groen LA, Van Laecke E, Praet M, and Hoebeke P. Congenital penile pathology is associated with abnormal development of the dartos muscle: a prospective study of primary penile surgery at a tertiary referral center. *THE JOURNAL OF UROLOGY*, 2015; 193, 1620-1624. Impact factor: 4.471

Spinoit AF, Poelaert F, Van Praet C, Groen LA, Van Laecke E, and Hoebeke P. Grade of hypospadias is the only factor predicting for re-intervention after primary hypospadias repair: a multivariate analysis from a cohort of 474 patients. *JOURNAL OF PEDIATRIC UROLOGY*, 2015; 11, 70-76. Impact factor: 0.898

Spinoit AF and Hoebeke P. Paediatrics: Urinary flow rate after TIP urethroplasty for hypospadias. *NATURE REVIEWS UROLOGY*, 2015; 12, 477-478. Impact factor: 4.840

Trum HW, Hoebeke P, and Gooren LJ. Sex reassignment of transsexual people from a gynecologist's and urologist's perspective. *ACTA OBSTETRICIA ET GYNECOLGICA SCANDINAVICA*, 2015; 94, 563-567. Impact factor: 2.426

Van Caenegem E and T'Sjoen G. Bone in trans persons. *CURRENT OPINION IN ENDOCRINOLY DIABETES AND OBESITY*, 2015;22, 459-466. Impact factor: 3.367

Van Caenegem E, Wierckx K, Taes Y, Schreiner T, Vandewalle S, Toye K, Kaufman JM, and T'Sjoen G. Preservation of volumetric bone density and geometry in trans women during cross-sex hormonal therapy: a prospective observational study. *OSTEOPOROSIS INTERNATIONAL*, 2015;26, 35-47. Impact factor: 4.169

Van Caenegem E, Wierckx K, Taes Y, Schreiner T, Vandewalle S, Toye K, Lapauw B, Kaufman JM, and T'Sjoen G. Body composition, bone turnover, and bone mass

in trans men during testosterone treatment: 1-year follow-up data from a prospective case-controlled study (ENIGI). EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF ENDOCRINOLOGY, 2015;172, 163-171. Impact factor: 4.069

Van Caenegem E, Wierckx K, Elaut E, Buysse A, Dewaele A, Van Nieuwerburgh F, De Cuypere G, and T'Sjoen G. Prevalence of Gender Nonconformity in Flanders, Belgium. ARCHIVES OF SEXUAL BEHAVIOR, 2015;44, 1281-1287. Impact factor: 2.589

Van der Jeught M, Taelman J, Duggal G, Ghimire S, Lierman S, Chuva de Sousa Lopes SM, Deforce D, Deroo T, De Sutter P, and Heindryckx B. Application Of Small Molecules Favoring Naive Pluripotency during Human Embryonic Stem Cell Derivation. CELLULAR REPROGRAMING, 2015; 17, 170-180. Impact factor: 1.788

Van der Jeught M, O'Leary T, Duggal G, De Sutter P, Chuva de Sousa LS, and Heindryckx B. The post-inner cell mass intermediate: implications for stem cell biology and assisted reproductive technology. HUMAN REPRODUCTION UPDATE, 2015; 21, 616-626. Impact factor: 10.165

Vandewalle S, De Schepper J, and Kaufman JM. Androgens and obesity in male adolescents. CURRENT OPINION IN ENDOCRINOLOGY DIABETES AND OBESITY, 2015;22, 230-237. Impact factor: 3.367

Van Houdenhove E, Gijs L, T'Sjoen G, and Enzlin P. Stories about asexuality: a qualitative study on asexual women. JOURNAL OF SEX AND MARITAL THERAPY, 2015;41, 262-281.

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