MATERNITY SERVICES FOR A MIGRANT FAMILY
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Our hospital was founded in 1756, being the oldest one in Finland. At the Department of Obstetrics, annual birth rate is about 3500. Every pregnant women can attend City Prenatal Clinics without charge, including migrants. Only very few single cases are not using this opportunity. They all visit once during their pregnancy the University Hospital. After delivery they stay at maternal wards for 3-4 days.

Project A (M.P.): The aim of the project was to improve communication between the migrant family and the staff in Obstetrics. The staff was guided to use more often the interpretation services. All the written material available (baby nursing and care, hygiene, food etc.) for local (Finnish/Swedish) women was translated to other languages used, in teamwork with Regional Interpreter Center of Turku. The language bank system in our hospital was improved to fulfil these needs.

Project B (A.S.): In Finland we have a very sufficient maternity welfare services. All pregnant women visit in their local maternity clinic for normal check-ups a 10-18 times during their pregnancy. All these maternity clinics have also standardised training classes. One part of these classes is held at Hospitals labour ward. During this project we started to arrange these classes also for migrant pregnant women and their family (with a suitable interpreter). An illustrated guide of different non-medical and medical relaxation methods to relief labour pain has been published. A video about having a baby in the Hospital, as also the breastfeeding video, has been translated into several languages.

This project was supported by a steering group covering necessary fields and was received by the staff favorably. Clear communication is essential for high quality patient care.