Paris, June 2009
Meeting of Bengt’s Friends

Bengt,
our beloved friend,
is 80 years old
I want to remember ...
I know him since 1979....
30 years ago!
Actually I started to appreciate his advices since 1977 ...

(planning the IPIMC - Italian Register of Congenital Malformations)
... and he was very helpful even the very first time I met him ...

*(he will discover now)*
... and he was very helpful even the very first time I met him ...

*(he will discover now now)*

September 1979, 6th Annual Meeting of the Clearinghouse in Jerusalem

Marcus Klingberg, organizer and chairman
I went to visit the Dead Sea and swim there.

Such a fantastic experience... but ...

I forgot on the beach the only pair of shoes I had !!!

Only sandals left !
... and he was very helpful even the very first time I met him ...

*(he will discover now)*

- An Italian elegant man without shoes ???
- Is ... a dead man !!!
- So... I decided to stay in my room and not take part to the gala dinner.
- Suddenly appeared Bengt with ...
- WOW!!! I can go ... I am in the best company
After the meeting in Jerusalem where just we appreciated his sandals, I met Bengt four more times. He was always very busy and I very shy with a very bad knowledge of the English language, which I improved during the year 1982. **In Strasbourg I finally spoke to him, by then I was in love ...**

- **1980, 7th ICH Annual Meeting, Stockholm**
- **1981, 8th ICH Annual Meeting, Lausanne**
- **1982, 9th ICH Annual Meeting, London**
  
  He looks quite concerned.
  No.. Actually it is only an impression ...

- **1982, Valproic Acid Meeting, Strasbourg**

ICH: International Clearinghouse
I could not survive without him....

- Invitations to Rome started ... informally and formally
- He came ... even feverish !!! Bengt, do you remember the train trip to Bologna?
- 1983, June 14: Meeting in Bologna to make aware the neurologists that valproic acid was teratogenic
- 1983, June 16: Antiepileptic Drugs and Birth Defects Meeting in Roma
The Lund Group: first step

- 1983 Copenhagen
- First Lund Group Meeting
The Lund Group

Bengt Källén in collaboration with:

- Elisabeth Robert-Gnansia -> 31
- Pierpaolo Mastroiacovo -> 18
- Eduardo Castilla -> 15
- Elisabeth Knudsen -> 9
- John Harris -> 9
- Paul Lancaster -> 8
- Osvaldo Mutchinick -> 8
- Maria Luisa Martinez-Frias -> 6
- Karin Källén -> 5

Numbers means the papers produced by the Lund Group
1986: The first study
More opportunities to appreciate Bengt and learn from him

• 1984-1987, 3-4 times hosted at Bengt & Ingegerd’s home to learn how to analyze multiple congenital malformations and to correctly classify limb reduction defects

• 1984, Executive Committee in Atlanta
• 1984, 11th ICH Meeting, Atlanta
• 1985, June Workshop WHO, Roma
• 1985, 12th ICH Meeting Lyon – Chateau le Pizay
• 1985, Sep 25-27, Birth Defects Symposium, Alghero (Sardinia, Italy)
• 1986, ICH Executive Committee in Montefollonico (Siena)
• 1986, 13th ICH Meeting, Angra do Reis
1984, 11th ICH Meeting, Atlanta

Arrows indicate the Lund Group’s members
1985, 12th ICH Meeting, Lyon, Chateau le Pizay
1985, 12th ICH Meeting,
Lyon, Chateau le Pizay
1985, 12th ICH Meeting, Lyon, Chateau le Pizay
1985, 12th ICH Meeting, Lyon, Chateau le Pizay
1985, 25-27 September, Alghero (Sardinia, Italy)
Birth Defects Symposium

Hotel Calabona, Alghero

Bengt, did you go to the sea?
1986, Executive Committee
Montefollonico
1986, Executive Committee
Montefollonico
The Seven in Montefollonico
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN
They fought like seven hundred
1986, Angra do Reis, 13th ICH Annual Meeting
1986, Angra do Reis, 13th ICH Annual Meeting
More opportunities to appreciate Bengt and learn from him

- 1987, 14th ICH Meeting, Madrid (the only meeting I missed!)
- Simonetta, do you remember? you represented me with the advice to always follow what Bengt said, and to vote as he did.
- 1988, June 8, TIS -Telefono Rosso Meeting, Roma
- 1988, June 9-11, Birth Defects Symposium, Sciacca-Italy
- 1988, 15th ICH Meeting, Strasbourg
- 1989, European Teratology Society, Baveno-Italy
Bengt Kallen & his band

A Fearless Fistfull of Researchers
More opportunities to appreciate Bengt and learn from him

• 1991 Dec 10, First GRERS Meeting, Roma
More opportunities to appreciate Bengt and learn from him

- 1990, Elisabeth’s Thesis discussion
- 1992, Atlanta, 19th ICH Meeting
- 1992, Pierre Pradat’s Thesis discussion
- 1992, Dec 2, Roma, 2nd GRERS Meeting
- 1992, Roma, ASM Birth Defects Symposium
- 1993, Cortona 20th ICH Meeting
1993, 20th ICH Annual Meeting
Cortona, Italy
What I learned from Bengt,
random selection of the many things
What I learned from Bengt, random selection of the many things

• Babies are not codes

FIGURE 32. Diagram illustrating the distortion of the information in a reporting system, from the infant to the coded data. (A) shows the actual infant, (B) is the doctor’s picture of it and what is written down in the medical records, (C) is the content of the report form to the surveillance registry, (D) is the interpretation of that form in the registry, and (E) is the coded data which are stored in a computer.
What I learned from Bengt, random selection of the many things

• How to analyze the "multiples"

MULTIPLE MALFORMATIONS STUDIED WITH A NATIONAL REGISTER OF MALFORMATIONS

Bengt Källén, M.D., and Jan Winberg, M.D.
From the Departments of Embryology, University of Lund, and Pediatrics, at Crown Princess Louisa Hospital, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

Fig. 1. Diagram showing positive associations found between various malformations. $-0.05 > p > 0.01; = 0.01 > p > 0.001$. Circle encloses group of "syndromes."
What I learned from Bengt, random selection of the many things

- Look at the data, use your mind, then... statistical tests

- It’s much powerful a HP computer early 80s than these new damned Microsoft machines
What I learned from Bengt, random selection of the many things

- Any cheese can be eaten with the rind
- You can have a bath in the sea with any temperature,
  ....Bengt, do you remember the bath in the Fregene’s sea?
What I learned from Bengt, random selection of the many things

- Johnson temptation is the best dish in Sweden, and then in the world!

Thank you so much, Ingegerd
What I learned from Bengt, random selection of the many things

- You must first trust in the researcher person; then in the results he submits, not the contrary

- It’s much better to read ten papers than to participate to one symposium

- Basic concepts in epidemiology
What I learned from Bengt, random selection of the many things

• If you disagree with Bengt don’t worry…. before or after you will fully agree

• It’s much more important what you write in a paper than where you publish it
What I learned from Bengt, random selection of the many things

- Pierpaolo, communication between human beings is based on words ...
  ... not in hands moving...
What I learned from Bengt, random selection of the many things

- A deadline is a deadline after that there is only a deadman

The CS student finally realizes the meaning of the word "deadline."
What I learned from Bengt, random selection of the many things

• If you have rats ... you must feed them...

EARLY IN THE MORNING!
What I learned from Bengt,
random selection of the many things

• If you have dogs ... you must feed them ...

• EARLY IN THE MORNING

• AT NOON

• IN THE EVENING