

LAURENTIU CRACIUNAS

Full GMC Registration, Reference Number: 7212004; Date of birth: 30.12.1986
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

EDUCATION

2005 – 2011 "Iuliu Hatieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy from Cluj-Napoca
2013 – Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG)
2014 – 2015 Department of Reproductive Medicine, University of Nottingham
2015 – 2018 Faculty of Medical Sciences, Newcastle University
2017 – College of Medical Sciences, University of Birmingham

QUALIFICATIONS

2011 MMed, Doctor - Medic
2016 PG Certificate in Clinical Research
2018 MSc in Genomic Medicine
2019 MRCOG Part 2

CURRENT POSITION

August 2019 – Present ST3 in Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle, Health Education North East

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

August 2017 – August 2019 Clinical Research Fellow in Recurrent Miscarriage
Tommy's National Centre for Miscarriage Research, Birmingham
PhD research student at the University of Birmingham

August 2016 – August 2017 Academic Clinical Fellow (ST2) in Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle, Health Education North East

August 2015 – August 2016 Academic Clinical Fellow (ST1) in Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Sunderland Royal Hospital, Sunderland, Health Education North East

August 2014 – July 2015 Clinical Research Fellow in Reproductive Medicine
Nurture Fertility, University of Nottingham

May 2013 – July 2014 Clinical Fellow (SHO) in Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Saint Mary's Hospital, Manchester, Central Manchester Foundation Trust

July 2012 – May 2013 Clinical Fellow (SHO) in General Surgery
Worthing Hospital, Worthing, West Sussex Hospital Trust

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

I started my development as a clinician in Obstetrics and Gynaecology with a fellowship at Saint Mary's Hospital in Manchester. This is one of the busiest units in the UK with more than 9000 deliveries a year and the experience I gained in this post, as a Senior House Officer at a tertiary centre, has been invaluable. The obstetrics on calls offer exposure to high risk pregnancies, emergency caesarean sections and instrumental deliveries. Hypertension clinics, renal clinics, haematology clinics, cardiac clinics and obesity clinics were included in my monthly schedule.

I then joined the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) training pathway as an Academic Clinical Fellow in the North East Deanery with rotations at Sunderland Hospital (5500 deliveries a year) and Royal Victoria Infirmary (7500 deliveries a year). I am currently a Registrar and I am up to date with the RCOG training matrix, logbook and portfolio, having achieved outcome 1 in all Annual Reviews of Competence Progression (ARCPs).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

I have always been interested in research and I have explored the research opportunities in all my clinical placements. During my surgical placement at Worthing Hospital I have engaged in several systematic reviews and meta-analyses. My roles varied from literature search, initially, to data extraction, statistical analysis and leading my own projects, finally. This led to the publication of several manuscripts in peer reviewed journals.

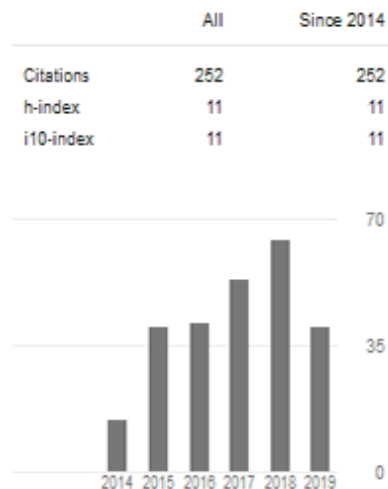
During my obstetrics and gynaecology placement at St Mary's Hospital in Manchester I engaged with the assisted reproduction team and led a project assessing the reliability of the new AMH assay (modification of the Beckman-Coulter second-generation enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay). The results were published in Fertility and Sterility journal.

During my clinical research fellowship at Nurture Fertility I gained extensive experience in secondary research by undergoing Cochrane training and by leading two Cochrane reviews.

I was then awarded an Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) which protected 25% of my time for research. This enabled me to undergo thorough training in generic research methodology by completing a Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Research.

I have gained more insight into molecular research, OMICS-techniques and Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) by undergoing an MSc in Genomic Medicine at Newcastle University. My research project compared the gene expression between cleavage stage and blastocyst stage human embryos. I have used this knowledge to design my current research as PhD student at the University of Birmingham. My project aims to develop a new endometrial receptivity test by using OMICS- techniques.

The research activity enabled me to publish several peer-reviewed articles including 12 first or last author publications in prominent Obstetrics and Gynaecology journals such as Cochrane Gynaecology and Fertility, Human Reproduction Update, BJOG, Fertility and Sterility. I have also disseminated the outputs of my research as poster and oral presentations at national and international meetings such as the RCOG National Trainees Conference, Controversies in Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Infertility, European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology.



AWARDS

- **Young ESHRE Ambassador** awarded by the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE 2017).
- **Academic Clinical Fellowship** awarded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) in 2015.
- **Travel Grant** awarded by the British Fertility Society (BFS) in 2014.
- **Top BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology Reviewer** of 2013, 2014 and 2015.
- **Best Poster Presentation** awarded with a *Certificate of Commendation* at International Surgical Congress of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI) on 1st of May 2013 in Glasgow, UK.
- **Prize for Excellence in E-Health** awarded by Tarus Media and the British Medical Journal for the Obstetrics and Gynaecology blog www.contraboli.ro in 2010.
- **Top 3 Best medical blog** awarded by the Romanian College of Physicians at Gala Medica in 2010.
- **Top 10 Student of the year** awarded by Dinu Patriciu Foundation at Education Awards Gala in 2010.
- **3rd Prize** for Poster at “Iuliu-Hatieganu” University of Medicine and Pharmacy Annual Meeting in 2009 as 5th year medical student.

MEMBERSHIPS

- General Medical Council (GMC)
- Medical Defence Union (MDU)
- European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE)

PUBLICATIONS

Manuscripts

- **Craciunas L**, Gallos I, Chu J, Bourne T, Quenby Q, Brosens JJ, Coomarasamy A. Conventional and modern markers of endometrial receptivity: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Hum Reprod Update* 2019; 25: 202-223.
- Akhtar MA, Sajjad Y, Brown J, Agrawal R, **Craciunas L**. Thyroxine replacement for subfertile women with euthyroid autoimmune thyroid disease or subclinical hypothyroidism. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev* 2019; 6: CD011009.
- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N, Raine-Fenning N, Coomarasamy A. Intrauterine administration of human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) for subfertile women undergoing assisted reproduction. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev* 2018; 10: CD011537
- **Craciunas L**, Kollmann M, Tsampras N, Raine-Fenning N, Choudhary M. Oxytocin antagonists for assisted reproduction (Protocol). *Cochrane Database Syst Rev* 2016: CD012375.
- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N, Coomarasamy A, Raine-Fenning N. Intrauterine administration of human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) for subfertile women undergoing assisted reproduction. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev* 2016; 5: CD011537.

- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N. Bed rest following embryo transfer might negatively affect the outcome of IVF/ICSI: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Hum Fertil (Camb)* 2016; 17: 1-7.
- Kollmann M, Martins WP, Lima ML, **Craciunas L**, Nastri CO, Richardson A, Raine-Fenning N. Strategies to improve the outcomes of assisted reproduction in women with polycystic ovarian syndrome: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol* 2016; 48: 709-718.
- **Craciunas L**. Chewing gum after caesarean section stimulates the gastrointestinal system. *Evid Based Nurs* 2016; 19: 46.
- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N, Kollmann M, Stirbu L, Raine-Fenning N. Use of hyaluronic acid for sperm immobilisation and selection before intracytoplasmic sperm injection: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *World J Obstet Gynecol* 2015; 4 : 113-123.
- Kollmann M, Klaritsch P, Martins WP, Guenther F, Schneider V, Herzog SA, **Craciunas L**, Lang U, Obermayer-Pietsch B, Lerchbaum E, Raine-Fenning N. Maternal and neonatal outcomes in pregnant women with PCOS: comparison of different diagnostic definitions. *Hum Reprod* 2015; 30: 2396-403.
- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N, Coomarasamy A, Raine-Fenning N. Intrauterine administration of human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) for subfertile women undergoing assisted reproduction (Protocol). *Cochrane Database Syst Rev* 2015: CD011537.
- **Craciunas L**, Roberts SA, Yates AP, Smith A, Fitzgerald C, Pemberton PW. Modification of the Beckman-Coulter second-generation enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay protocol improves the reliability of serum antimullerian hormone measurement. *Fertil Steril* 2015; 103: 554-9.
- **Craciunas L**, Stirbu L, Tsampras N. The use of a peritoneal gas drain following gynecological laparoscopy: a systematic review. *Eur J Obstet Gynecol Reprod Biol* 2014; 179: 224-8.
- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N. A literature review of the current evidence for routine antibiotic prophylaxis after cervical tissue excisions. *J Obstet Gynaecol* 2014; 34: 700-5.
- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N, Fitzgerald C. Cervical mucus removal prior to embryo transfer in women undergoing IVF/ICSI: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials. *Fertil Steril* 2014; 101: 1302-7.
- **Craciunas L**, Sajid MS, Ahmed AS. Chewing gum in preventing postoperative ileus in women undergoing caesarean section: A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials. *BJOG* 2014; 121: 793-9.
- **Craciunas L**, Sajid MS, Howell R. Carbon dioxide versus normal saline as distension medium for diagnostic hysteroscopy: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials. *Fertil Steril* 2013; 100: 1709-14.
- Sajid MS, **Craciunas L**, Baig MK, Sains P. Systematic review and meta-analysis of published, randomized, controlled trials comparing suture anastomosis to stapled anastomosis for ileostomy closure. *Tech Coloproctol* 2013; 17: 631-9.
- Sajid MS, **Craciunas L**, Singh KK, Sains P, Baig MK. Open transinguinal preperitoneal mesh repair of inguinal hernia: a targeted systematic review and meta-analysis of published randomized controlled trials. *Gastroenterol Rep* 2013; 1: 127-37
- Sajid MS, **Craciunas L**, Sains P, Singh KK, Baig MK. Use of antibacterial sutures for skin closure in controlling surgical site infections: a systematic review of published randomized, controlled trials. *Gastroenterol Rep* 2013; 1: 42-50.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

International

- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N, Fitzgerald C. Cervical mucus removal prior to embryo transfer in women undergoing IVF/ICSI: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials. *European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE) Annual Meeting* on 1st of July 2014 in Munich, Germany.
- **Craciunas L**, Sajid MS, Howell R. Current evidence does not support the routine antibiotic prophylaxis for cervical tissue excisions: a literature review. *The 18th World Congress on Controversies in Obstetrics, Gynecology & Infertility (COGI)* on 24th of October 2013 in Vienna, Austria.
- Sajid MS, Leung P, **Craciunas L**, Miles WFA, Baig MK. Systematic review of published trials comparing the effectiveness of trans-anal microsurgery against radical resection in the management of early rectal cancer. *International Congress of the European Association for Endoscopic Surgery (EAES)* on 19th of June 2013 in Vienna, Austria.
- Sajid MS, **Craciunas L**, Sains P, Miles WFA, Singh KK. Laparoscopic versus open preperitoneal mesh repair of inguinal hernia: an integrated systematic review and meta-analysis of published randomized controlled trials. *International Surgical Congress of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI)* on 1st of May 2013 in Glasgow, UK.
- Sajid MS, **Craciunas L**, Miles WFA, Sains P, Baig MK. Open transinguinal preperitoneal mesh repair of inguinal hernia: a targeted systematic review and meta-analysis of published randomized controlled trials. *International Surgical Congress of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI)* on 1st of May 2013 in Glasgow, UK.
- Sajid MS, **Craciunas L**, Miles WFA, Sains P, Baig MK. Use of antibacterial sutures for skin closure in controlling the surgical site infections: a systematic review of published randomized controlled trials. *International Surgical Congress of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI)* on 1st of May 2013 in Glasgow, UK.
- Sajid MS, **Craciunas L**, Wakeling H, Sains P, Singh K. An integrated systematic review and meta-analysis of published randomized controlled trials evaluating nasogastric against postpyloris feeding in critically ill surgical and intensive care patients. *International Surgical Congress of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI)* on 1st of May 2013 in Glasgow, UK.

Local

- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N, Raine-Fenning N, Coomarasamy A. Intrauterine administration of hCG prior to embryo transfer. *North of England Reproductive Medicine Group (NOERG) Meeting* 28th of September 2018 in Newcastle, UK.
- **Craciunas L**. Risk factors for endometrial cancer. “Iuliu Hatieganu” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, qualification thesis, September 2011.

POSTERS

International

- **Craciunas L**, Kollmann M, Tsampras N, Raine-Fenning N, Choudhary M. The reproductive outcome following Atosiban administration around the time of embryo transfer: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE) Annual Meeting* on 3rd of July 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland.

- **Craciunas L**, Sajid MS, Howell R. Carbon dioxide versus normal saline as distension medium for diagnostic hysteroscopy: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials. *The 18th World Congress on Controversies in Obstetrics, Gynecology & Infertility (COGI)* on 24th of October 2013 in Vienna, Austria.
- **Craciunas L**, Sajid MS, Ahmed AS. A systematic review comparing the role of chewing gum in preventing postoperative ileus in patients undergoing caesarean section. *Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) World Congress* on 24th of June 2013 in Liverpool, UK.
- Sajid MS, Leung P, **Craciunas L**, Baig MK, Miles WFA. Use of transanal minimal invasive surgery (TAMIS) approach for endoscopic transanal resection of tumour (ETART) in rectum: a technical note. *International Congress of the European Association for Endoscopic Surgery (EAES)* on 19th of June 2013 in Vienna, Austria.
- Sajid MS, **Craciunas L**, Miles WFA, Singh KK, Sayegh M. NOTES-cholecystectomy may be a viable alternative to conventional laparoscopic cholecystectomy: a systematic review and meta-analysis of the published comparative studies. *International Surgical Congress of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI)* on 1st of May 2013 in Glasgow, UK.
- Sajid MS, **Craciunas L**, Miles WFA, Baig MK, Sains P. Use of absorbable versus non-absorbable suture for skin wound closure in surgical patients: an integrated systematic review and meta-analysis of published randomized controlled trials. *International Surgical Congress of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI)* on 1st of May 2013 in Glasgow, UK.
- Sajid MS, **Craciunas L**, Baig MK, Sains P, Miles WFA. Fraud and deceit in medical and surgical research is more common than we think. *International Surgical Congress of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI)* on 1st of May 2013 in Glasgow, UK.

National

- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N. Bed rest following embryo transfer might negatively affect the outcome of IVF/ICSI: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) National Trainees Conference* on 10th of December 2015 in London, UK.
- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N, Coomarasamy A, Raine-Fenning N. Intrauterine administration of human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) for subfertile women undergoing assisted reproduction. *Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) National Trainees Conference* on 10th of December 2015 in London, UK.
- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N, Kollmann M, Raine-Fenning N. Recombinant versus bovine hyaluronidase for oocyte denudation before intracytoplasmic sperm injection: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) National Trainees Conference* on 10th of December 2015 in London, UK.
- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N, Kollmann M, Raine-Fenning N. The use of hyaluronic acid for sperm immobilisation and selection before intracytoplasmic sperm injection: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) National Trainees Conference* on 10th of December 2015 in London, UK.
- **Craciunas L**, Kollmann M, Richardson A, Zujovic L, Raine-Fenning N. Natural cycle IVF: evaluation of 80 cycles. *British Fertility Society (BFS) Annual Meeting* on 7th of January 2015 in Birmingham, UK.

- **Craciunas L**, Tsampras N, Kollmann M, Raine-Fenning N. The use of hyaluronic acid for sperm immobilisation and selection before intracytoplasmic sperm injection: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *British Fertility Society (BFS) Annual Meeting* on 7th of January 2015 in Birmingham, UK.
- Asher V, **Craciunas L**, Slade R, Smith M, Winter-Roach B, Ahmed A. Perioperative Morbidity and Mortality in patients with Gynaecological cancer: A cancer centre experience. *British Gynaecological Cancer Society (BGCS) Annual Meeting* on 5th of July 2012 in London, UK.

Local

- Ciortea R, Mihiu D, Ciuchina S, Nicula R, Malutan A, Haragas D, Mocan R, Hudacsko A, **Craciunas L**. Anti-inflammatory and metabolic effects of melatonin in ovariectomised rat females. “*Iuliu-Hatieganu*” *University of Medicine and Pharmacy Annual Meeting* 2009.

CLINICAL GOVERNANCE

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| • Clinical effectiveness audit of the Perineal Clinic
Royal Victoria Infirmary | 2017 |
| • Management of 3 rd degree perineal tears (guideline)
Royal Victoria Infirmary | 2016 |
| • Management of Bartholin’s cysts (guideline)
Sunderland Royal Hospital | 2016 |
| • Management of 3 rd and 4 th degree perineal tears (audit)
Sunderland Royal Hospital | 2015 |
| • Cost-effectiveness of the Reproductive Medicine Pathway (audit)
Saint Mary’s Hospital | 2014 |
| • Thromboprophylaxis in high dependency obstetrical patients (audit)
Saint Mary’s Hospital | 2014 |
| • Management of endometrial atypical hyperplasia (audit)
Saint Mary’s Hospital | 2014 |
| • Prescribers contact details in drug chart (audit)
Worthing Hospital | 2013 |
| • Outcomes and complications of Gynaecological oncology patients (audit)
The Christie Hospital | 2012 |

TRAINING COURSES

Clinical

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| • Measuring and enhancing endometrial receptivity to improve pregnancy outcomes | European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology | 2017 |
| • Turner Syndrome Study Day | North East Deanery | 2016 |
| • Managing the difficult IVF patient | European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology | 2016 |
| • Obstetrics high dependency care | North East Deanery | 2016 |
| • 3D Ultrasound in Gynaecology | Teale Fenning Medical Education | 2015 |
| • Early Pregnancy & Endocrinology | European Society of Human | 2014 |

• Safeguarding/Child Protection (Level 3)	Reproduction and Embryology	2014
• Communication skills for doctors	Saint Mary's Hospital	2013
• Repair of 3 rd / 4 th degree perineal tears	SAGE & THYME	2013
• Bereavement counselling & breaking bad news	Saint Mary's Hospital	2013
• Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics	ALSO UK	2012
• Basic Practical Skills in Obstetrics and Gynaecology	Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists	2012
• Advanced Life Support	Resuscitation Council UK	2012
• Clinical Leadership Intensive Course	Worthing Hospital	2012
• Basic Surgical Skills	Students' Surgery Society of Romania	2009

Academic

• Academic writing	University of Birmingham	2018
• Understanding evidence based medicine and research methodology	University of Birmingham	2017
• Introduction to Bioinformatics	HEE Genomics England	2016
• Clinical Research in the NHS	Health Education North East	2015
• Good Clinical Practice	National Institute for Health Research	2015
• Regression Analysis in SPSS	University of Nottingham	2015
• Using Excel as a Database	University of Nottingham	2015
• Creating and Managing Long Documents in Microsoft Word	University of Nottingham	2015
• Introduction to qualitative research	University of Nottingham	2015
• Basic Statistics with SPSS	University of Nottingham	2014
• Advanced Topics in the Analysis and Reporting of Systematic Reviews	UK Cochrane Centre	2014
• Analysis Methods for Systematic Reviews	UK Cochrane Centre	2014

INTERESTS OUTSIDE WORK

I am passionate about medical education for the lay public. I am the creator and the lead author of the most popular medical blog written by doctors in Romania (www.contraboli.ro). I also have a strong collaboration with the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE) who have chosen me as their young ambassador for my activity in the Fertility Awareness Special Interest Group and for my editorial activity for the Focus on Reproduction magazine. I am a member of the executive committee as a Junior Deputy for the ESHRE Special Interest Group Early Pregnancy and Implantation. I enjoy running and I have recently ran a Half Marathon in London to raise funds for Tommy's Charity. My next stop is Berlin Marathon at the end of September.

Last update: August 2019