

**KARIN AMCOFF** obtained her medical degree from Uppsala University, Sweden, in 2010 and did her internship (allmäntjänstgöring) at Örebro University Hospital in 2010 to 2012. During this time she began her research, and was accepted as a doctoral student at Örebro University hospital in 2012 with Jonas Halfvarson, MD, PhD, as supervisor and Marie Carlson, MD, PhD, as co-supervisor. In 2013, Karin worked as a doctor at Uppsala University Hospital at the department of Gastroenterology. Karin also has a Degree of Master of Science from Uppsala University, 2001.

The inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD) – Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis – are relapsing and remitting disorders characterised by chronic inflammation at various sites in the gastrointestinal tract, resulting in diarrhoea and abdominal pain. Neither the aetiology nor the pathophysiology is yet fully understood, and there is currently no cure. The overall aim of this thesis was to add a piece of the puzzle to understanding the complex pathogenesis of IBD; to determine the role of genetic and environmental factors in the development of antibodies in IBD - which could provide insight to the aetiology of the diseases; and to find sensitive and specific faecal biomarkers to predict future flare in the diseases, which would be of great benefit to both patients and the health care

ISSN 1652-4063  
ISBN 978-91-7529-223-6

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2018



Doctoral Dissertation

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*Medical Science with a specialisation in Medicine*

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