

## **Learning at work and the transformation of working life**

Project in cooperation with University West, Sweden. Project members:  
Hans Rystedt and Thomas Winman

### **Project summary**

Introducing electronic patient records (EPR) is one of the most far-reaching changes of healthcare practice. The EPR gathers information and documentation from doctors, nurses, physiotherapists and other professionals. Research on how EPR:s are actually adopted and used, however, show that many of the expectations of the technologies; to support work and to ease day-to-day problems are not met. A basic assumption of EPRs is that the technology efficiently gives access to sufficient information about patients in order to provide high quality care. This postulation is contested in the present project. Our studies thus far suggest that the use of EPR:s presupposes extensive and skilful work by professionals in order to transform the information provided into locally relevant knowledge. The problem of putting information into practical use, thus, cannot simply be reduced to a set of technical issues. Technology of this kind in a fundamental sense is dependent on categorizing practices that are grounded in different professionals' activities and responsibilities.