Victoria Hahn-Strömberg was born on July 30th 1971. She graduated in 1994 as a biomedical scientist specializing in microbiology. In 2002 she received her masters degree in Biomedical laboratory science at Orebro University and registered as a PhD student in December of 2002. During this research period she has actively represented PhD students in different faculty committees at Orebro University and has been chairman of the Clinical medicine and Biomedicine PhD student organizations from 2003 to 2008. In May 2008 she was elected as a member of the board of directors at the Institution of Biomedical Laboratory Science. She has throughout this thesis worked as a biomedical scientist specializing in haematology morphology and flow cytometry at the Department of Pathology, Orebro University Hospital. She has presented her work at several international congresses and received an award as best presenter at the International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science World Congress in Seoul, Korea, 2006.

Colorectal carcinoma is the second most common type of cancer in Sweden today with approximately 5000 new cases each year. The growth pattern of colorectal cancer can be divided into expansive and infiltrative where the infiltrative growth pattern has a worse prognosis. In this thesis a method to quantitatively and objectively describe the growth pattern of colon carcinoma using tree analysis has been developed. Also the expression of cell adhesion proteins E-cadherin, Beta-catenin, Claudin and Occludin were studied in relation to the growth pattern as well as different mutations in the cell adhesion genes and different clinicopathological factors such as tumour volume, tumour differentiation, TNM and tumour localisation.