



**GUNNEL ANDERSSON** is a registered nurse and urotherapist, specialised to work with people who suffer from urinary incontinence and other bladder-dysfunctions. She works at the Department of Urology at Örebro University Hospital and has since 2003 been enrolled as a doctoral student at the School of Health and Medical Sciences, Örebro University, Sweden.

This thesis describes urinary incontinence (UI) from a population perspective as well as from an individual perspective. This includes assessing the prevalence of UI, as well as describing treatment seeking and experiences of living with UI. A secondary aim was to describe the perception of UI among cultures other than the Swedish mainstream, exemplified in this case by Syrian women living in Sweden.

Every day the health care society takes care of people who all have contacted the health care to get help with UI, but more common according to, the literature, is that the majority of those with UI do not seek care or do not desire treatment for their leakage. We meet a small, selected group of people in the health care and need to ask the question about how other people with UI in the society manage, and also if the health care offered is optimised for this patient group. These are issues that this thesis have tried to answer but many questions remains about UI as well as other urological diseases, which is a spur to further research in the field.

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GUNNEL ANDERSSON Urinary incontinence

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## Urinary incontinence

Prevalence, treatment seeking behaviour, experiences,  
and perceptions among persons with and without urinary leakage

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*Surgery*

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