DR BIJAN DARVISH was born and raised in Tehran, Iran. He started medical school at Linköping University, Sweden and after completing his medical studies he joined the Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care at Örebro University Hospital as resident. Following specialisation, he moved to Karolinska University Hospital, Solna, where he has been employed as Consultant in Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care since 2011.

His initial interest in Obstetric anaesthesia, specifically the management of post-dural puncture headache in mothers, started after his experience in looking after one patient in the maternity ward, suffering from severe postural headache, and unable to look after her new-born baby. Therefore, in this thesis, he explores the incidence of this debilitating complication in the Nordic countries and then continues to prospectively assess whether audiometric methods could further improve the hitherto clinical diagnosis of post-dural puncture headache. He also studied whether any residual hearing loss may remain several years after an accidental dural puncture treated by an epidural blood patch. Finally, he assesses the risk of developing chronic headache and backache in patients treated with an epidural blood patch following an accidental dural puncture.