

# Annual Report

# 2025

Centre for Health Governance  
University of Gothenburg



**SAHLGRENSKA ACADEMY**



**UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG**  
**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, ECONOMICS AND LAW**

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## **Introduction**

Centre for Health Governance was established by the University of Gothenburg vice-chancellor November 1, 2021. The centre is a joint effort by the School of Business, Economics and Law and the Sahlgrenska Academy, with the **purpose**:

- To generate applicable knowledge with significance for the health care sector. This is to be achieved by networks in which researchers, care providers, and the business community are included.

## **Organization**

Centre for Health Governance has its administrative base at the Department of Economics, School of Business, Economics and Law. The steering group, consisting of representatives from Sahlgrenska Academy, departments within the School of Business, Economics and Law and chaired by an external member from Region Västra Götaland, has had two board meetings during this year. The advisory board for external collaboration, in which both local business and public community within the health area is included, also met twice.

Gustav Kjellsson has been the new director since December 2024, with Christian Gadolin serving as vice director. Additionally, Ewa Wikström (former director) and Mikael Svensson is also acting as vice directors in both internal and external communications. The group has had monthly meetings to handle mostly operational matters. Every second meeting included a broader management group of researchers involved in the centre. The core of researchers consists of the management team of eight researchers from the Departments of Economics and Business Administration, and from the School of Public Health and Community Medicine.

### **To better describe the scope of the research in the centre, the focus research areas within health governance have been revised into**

1. Medical technologies and treatments: effects of new treatment methods
2. Healthcare of the future: digitalization and AI
3. Management, organization, markets
4. Health equity and equal access to health care universal health coverage
5. A sustainable working life: labour market, organization, and health.

## **Added academic value**

Centre for Health Governance is a platform for research collaborations within health governance, focusing on health management and health economics, aiming to facilitate multi-disciplinary research and cooperation; within University of Gothenburg, with other universities, external parties, both nationally and internationally. The center's activities and initiatives aim to enhance connections both among researchers from various economic sciences and medicine, as well as between researchers and practitioners. These activities also aim to attract external research funding.

### **Externally funded research projects**

At the Centre for Health Governance, several research projects and data collections are

ongoing, funded by various sources. Noteworthy examples are first a project on medical technologies (research area 1 above), which is funded by the **IngaBritt and Arne Lundbergs Forskningsstiftelse**, which engage several researchers at the centre. The project is a multi-disciplinary project on the value of medical technologies. Second, a project on reimbursement models for preventive care (joint with e.g., **Region Skåne** and **RISE**) funded by the **European Union** (research area 2 above).

#### **Collaboration with internal and external actors**

Centre for Health Governance has several on-going collaborations with research groups at other universities as well as other faculties and departments, both active research projects and partnerships in the planning or application phase.

Centre for Health Governance is also frequently approached with inquiries for cooperation and engages in meetings with non-academic partners about joint workshops, funding applications or research projects. Current partners are primarily, but not exclusively, health care authorities, hospitals, and other actors in the region. Notable examples include:

- Collaboration with **Region Västra Götaland** and **Region Halland**. Apart from joint projects and activities, Centre for Health Governance is specifically engaged in expert roles, providing health economic support to the Health Technology Assessment Centre and the Ordered Implementation Group.
- Collaboration with **Sahlgrenska University Hospital**. E.g. Centre for Health Governance provides strategic advice and acts as an academic sounding board for both the hospital director and the chief financial officer on change management, innovation, reimbursement models, medical technologies and treatments, digitalization, and AI.
- Collaboration in joint projects with other public and private actors, including **Gothenburg Region, Dental and Pharmaceutical Benefits Agency (TLV)**, and **Pfizer**.
- Centre for Health Governance has organized research seminars and conference sessions joint with **Gothia Forum (Region Västra Götaland)**, **The Swedish Social Insurance Inspectorate**, **the data analysis unit at Region Västra Götaland**, **Swedish Agency for Health and Care Analysis**, **GPCC**.
- Centre for Health Governance also collaborates with other networks and organizations and has management roles in the Strategic Innovation Program **Swelife**, **Swedish health economic association**, **Nordic health economic association**.
- Centre for Health Governance collaborates and provides health economic support to **GPCC** (Centre for Person-centred Care) at the University of Gothenburg.
- Centre for Health Governance is also frequently approached with inquiries for health economic advice or support. To improve the quality of the health economic analysis in medical research, Centre for Health Governance aims to facilitate this process. The health economic experts within Centre for Health Governance provide free health economic consulting to researchers at the University of Gothenburg (and Region Västra Götaland) through a service provided by

**Akademistatistik.** Centre for Health Governance is actively promoting these services in our communication.

### **Infrastructure**

Centre for Health Governance has investment in building infrastructures for data analysis of health care data using funding from the IngaBritt and Arne Lundbergs Forskningsstiftelse. This infrastructure is used in several relevant projects fostering research collaborations.

## **Fourth year activities**

### **Dissertations (PhD students with supervisors at Centre for Health Governance)**

- **Karl Maack** "Navigating digital transformation in primary care: Implementation, intention, normalization, and institutional logics" University of Gothenburg
- **Gabriella Chauca Strand**, "Health Economic Aspects of Cancer Interventions: From Early Screening to Drug Treatment", University of Gothenburg
- **Royasia Ramadani**, "Healthcare utilization and long-term care in Indonesia's ageing population An analysis based on care needs of cardiovascular diseases", University of Gothenburg
- **Sumaya Abuloha**, "Novel treatments for infantile spinal muscular atrophy: A pharmaco-economic analysis of budget impact, cost-effectiveness, and outcomes-based payment models", University of Florida
- **Sebastian Jugl**, "Pregnancy after cancer: Pregnancy rates, healthcare related costs, and risk of preterm birth among young cancer survivors", University of Florida

## **Seminars, workshops and conferences organized by Centre for Health Governance**

### **Knowledge-sharing/outreach:**

- Centre for Health Governance launched the [Seminar series CHG Health Policy Forum](#) (Funded by Handelsbanken). These are held in Swedish, welcoming also external interested, people from VGR and others within public care. An open platform where policymakers, researchers, and practitioners meet to discuss current health policy challenges. These events are open to a broad audience and streamed online. Four events were arranged in 2025 with 100-150 attendees.

- Centre for Health Governance co-organized the policy conference "Styra och Leda: Vem ska göra jobbet, egentligen?". Organized joint with Centre for Global Human Resource Management, University of Gothenburg. Funded by FORTE and in cooperation with SKR. About 200 attendees.

- Centre for Health Governance organized a seminar with IngaBritt and Arne Lundbergs Forskningsstiftelse: *Medical Technologies — Societal Costs, Availability and Cost-Effectiveness*.

- Centre for Health Governance co-organized sessions at Swedish Health Economic Association on primary care joint with Swedish Agency for Health and Care Analysis.

### **Academic events:**

- The Centre for Health Governance research seminars series continued in 2025 with six events with external and internal speakers.

- Organized Centre for Health Governance Workshop on Economics, Inequality, and Health (Funded by Handelsbanken). Keynote speakers Torben Heien Nielsen University of Copenhagen and Jonathan Zhang, Duke University.

### **Professional development**

- The Centre for Health Governance co-organized a workshop with Gothia Forum (Region Västra Götaland) on integrating health economic evaluation into clinical research.

### **Participation in outreach and knowledge-sharing activities**

The researchers within Centre for Health Governance have during the year engaged in outreach activities including:

- invited speakers at academic conferences (Presentation of Swedish primary care market at workshop at Institut Català de la Salut, Barcelona)

- popular science presentation, e.g. seminar with IngaBritt and Arne Lundbergs Forskningsstiftelse: *Medical Technologies — Societal Costs, Availability and Cost-Effectiveness*; continuity of care and reimbursement and inequality at SHEA, seminar on precision health organized by Region Västra Götaland and Lif.

- popular science written reports/blogposts [pharmacoeconomic blogposts at [pharmaekonomi.substack.com](http://pharmaekonomi.substack.com);

- acted as experts for government agency reports (Swedish Competition Authority), in reference groups (Gothenburg Region), and in strategic roles (Sahlgrenska University Hospital).

Researchers at Centre for Health Governance have expanded the network during the year through participating in international conferences and hosting international guests (e.g., Martin Karlsson, director at health economics centre CINCH, Marcella Alsan, Stanford, Jonathan Zhang, Duke, Torben Heien Nielsen University of Copenhagen).

### **Higher educational training**

**A new executive education program.** Centre for Health Governance has developed an executive education program on leadership and governance for managers in the pharmaceutical and health care sector, primarily offered to AstraZeneca and Sahlgrenska University Hospital. First group of participants started autumn 2025. The program received very positive evaluations from the participants.

The members of the Centre for Health Governance are also involved in health economics courses on bachelor and master level including:

- Health economics courses directed to economists at the master level (7,5 ECTS) at the University of Gothenburg.
- Health Economic courses within the master programs in global and public health at the University of Gothenburg: Global Health Economics (15 ECTS); Introductory Health Economics (15 ECTS); Advanced health economic evaluation (15 ECTS)
- Health Economic course directed to master students in biomedical engineering at Chalmers University of Technology (15 ECTS)

## Finances

The Centre for Health Governance was made possible by a five-year core funding from Carl Bennet AB, facilitating a professorship, including directorship, two part-time post-doc researchers and for a small extent an administrative coordinator. Funding from Carl Bennet AB for all five years is 5 MSEK with equal parts cofinancing from the University of Gothenburg and the School of Business, Economics and Law, adding also a smaller contribution from the Sahlgrenska Academy.

During 2024, the centre intensified its efforts to apply for funds for non-research activities including various outreach, knowledge-sharing, and learning activities in collaboration with local actors. In 2025 Centre for Health Governance was granted funding for outreach, knowledge-sharing, and collaborative activities from Region Västra Götaland, in total 3 MSEK.

Applying for research funding is an ongoing process for all researchers, typically in collaboration with other experts in health governance and economics, across faculties, universities, and external partners both nationally and internationally. In 2025, the centre contributed to several major research applications. Among other things, Centre for Health Governance contributed research and expertise around our areas of strength to two applications for FORTE's targeted centre calls. One of these, UGOT ReWork, was granted 50 MSEK. Centre for Health Governance was also involved in securing funds for infrastructure for archival data that can be used to analyse health inequalities and evaluate historical public health interventions. In addition, the core researchers were involved in several successful research funding applications.

	<b>CHG part</b>	<b>Grant in</b>	
<b>Approved research grants</b>	<b>of grant</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>CHG researcher applicants</b>
Den kommunala hälso- och sjukvårdens möjligheter för effektiv administration av relationer med regional sjukvård (FORTE)	4 800 000	4 800 000	Mikael Cäker (PI)
Omfattande hälsoundersökningar som screeningverktyg (Hjärt-Lungfonden)	3 000 000	3 000 000	Gustav Kjellsson (PI), Mikael Svensson
Betydelsen av kontinuitet i primärvården – samband med hälsa, vårdkonsumtion och dödlighet	215 000	4 750 000	Gustav Kjellsson
Swedpop/Atlas (VR infrastruktur)	300 000	12 000 000	Gustav Kjellsson

UGOT ReWork (FORTE)	4 300 000	50 000 000	Ewa Wikström, Gustav Kjellsson, (post-doc)
MedPREP: Prioritizing Medical Preparedness for Health System Readiness (Nordforsk)	4 000 000	12 000 000	Mikael Svensson (Swedish-PI)
CARE Lab (Vinnova)	50 000	500 000	Ewa Wikström
Centre for Health Governance – för innovativ och hållbar vård i Väst (VGR)	3 000 000	3 000 000	Christian Gadolin, Wikström, Svensson, Kjellsson