**Introduction**

The purpose of this project is to engage students, lecturers, occupational therapy practitioners, and clients in studies of Occupational Therapy community-based long-term rehabilitation in order to:

- Investigate the experience of both clients and practitioners concerning how OT contribute to enable clients’ everyday life
- Contribute to development of OT practice within community-based long-term rehabilitation
- Facilitate changes in OT practice based on study results
- Meet curriculum demands of including lecturers, students, and OT practitioners in research in order to develop the quality of the OT education and to facilitate all parties to participate in developing OT practice

**Methods**

**Theoretical approach:**
- Practice Research
- Critical Psychology
- Occupational Therapy

**Research approach**
- Qualitative studies using e.g. interview and observation

**Separate studies**
- Groups of OT students carry out their bachelor thesis as a separate study within the overall project
- There are plans for new studies each term in the years to come

**Results**

Developing of OT practice in community-based long-term rehabilitation should emphasize:

- Communication with the client about the purpose of the rehabilitation
- The client’s expectations of the effect of the rehabilitation
- How the client’s expectations are met halfway through the rehabilitation period in order to change course or negotiate new goals

In order to promote the benefit of the OT intervention there must be a greater emphasis on:

- Setting goal in cooperation between the client and the OT
- Goals relating to the client’s conduct of life
- How to promote transfer of practice, functions and activity trained at the rehabilitation center to the clients everyday life occupations
- Using the clients everyday occupations as means of rehabilitation
- Making up programme for the OT intervention in cooperation with the client

**Conclusions**

OT students have engaged in and learned a specific research method Practice Research which emphasizes innovations in the OT practice.

A procedure of how students, lecturers, and community-based OTs cooperate in doing Practice Research has been developed.

The Practice Research studies have caused an attention on Occupational Therapy among clients, collaborators, and community leaders.

The community-based OTs have discovered that Practice Research can be used as a means to facilitate development of Occupational Therapy practice locally.

**OT Practice development project**

Inspired by the results from the first two studies in the Practice Research project, the community-based OTs were offered a “brush up” and developing course in order to facilitate further development of the community OT service.

All community-based OTs who work with long-term based rehabilitation participated and worked with supervision from Senior lecturers, Annette J. Madsen and Gitte Stokholm over a period of 3 months upgrading their theoretical knowledge and how to implement this in every day practice.