The research subject of my licentiate thesis is collaboration, carried out by youth psychiatry and its network partners working with a same client/family. My research question is how the workers describe and conceive collaboration. The central concepts are collaboration, network work, expertise and multiprofessionalism. All concepts have connections with each other but they also form concept pairs which are co-operation - network work and multiprofessionalism - expertise.

Each main concept is divided into subconcepts as follows: collaboration: coordination, cooperation and communication network work: institutional and dialogical network work multiprofessionalism: (sector central) multiprofessionalism and interprofessionalism expertise: modern and postmodern expertise

The first level (subconcept) of each main concept is the required base on which the next level has been developed. For each subconcept a new way develops to collaborate, do network work and multiprofessional work and carry out expertise.

The research is qualitative. The empirical data is collected from four network groups which have collaborated respectively with four families. The professionals represent youth psychiatry, child protection and pupil welfare. The research methodology is constructionism and fenomenography. Focus groups were used as interview method. The interviews were concentrated on the collaboration of the network with a particular family, and questions related to collaboration on a more common and broad level. In order to get a holistic picture about the collaboration it was essential that actual examples of collaboration could be observed. The networks would now speak of their experiences regarding the collaboration they had carried out.

The point of view of my research is that of the client-orientated professionals, and the results show their experiences of questions regarding the collaboration. The research reveals information about which level the workers choose or fall to collaborate on, how work carried out in networks work out between separate organizations and also what kind of challenges shared work between organizations brings, how multiprofessionalism is understood, on what level it is carried out and what kind of expertise different organizations and occupational groups are bringing.

With continued collaboration situations alter, and the means of collaboration changed. When problems emerged, solutions were sought from coordination of how the work was distributed. In discussions about the collaboration between organisations, questions regarding responsibilities, and the flow of information linked to professional discretion were central. Interprofessionalism was formed especially between those partners who were used to working together. Modern expertise was more common among the professionals of youth psychiatry whereas professionals of child protection represented postmodern expertise.

On account of my data, I find, that in the client-orientated collaboration between youth psychiatry, child protection and pupil welfare the situations were often very complicated. Due to the complicity of the situations, it could be established, that communication rather than coordination, dialogical rather than institutional network work, interprofessional rather than multiprofessional work and postmodern rather than modern expertise were needed.