

Bild- och funktionsdiagnostik

Handläggare

Jakob Heydorn Lagerlöf

Datum

2024-11-04

Diarienummer

The Radiological prioritisation problem

When a radiological examination is requested for a patient, a radiologist assesses the urgency of the situation, from a medical point of view, assigning a preferred examination time, i.e. within 2-4 weeks, within 4-8 weeks and within 2-4 months. In this problem formulation, acute or semi-acute examinations (<2 weeks) are not considered.

However, due to limited capacity, sometimes these requests cannot be met and someone must therefore choose which of the overdue examinations to prioritise over another. In some cases, a physician may have to re-asses, but since these cases are not acute, often, an evaluation may be made on a more general basis by the staff booking the appointment.

To simply compare percentual delays seems like a far too simple way of determining this. Is there an optimum (from a mathematical/statistical point of view) line of reasoning about this, in general?

Jakob Heydorn Lagerlöf, Associate professor

Medical physicist / Radiation safety expert / Research leader

+46 (0)10-8315098

jakob.lagerlof@regionvarmland.se