
Guidline for Swedish intensive care

2025

The purpose for the Guideline for Swedish Intensive Care is to create a uniform national structure for the organization, staffing and working methods of intensive care, and competence requirements. The Guideline is an updated version from the one published by the Swedish Society for Anesthesia and Intensive Care (SFAI) in 1995; partly based on recommendations from the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM; www.esicm.org). ESICM has recently updated its guideline and this revision focuses mainly on the modern perception of quality and organization.

By clarifying requirements, this guideline serves as guidance for planning and running an intensive care unit, as specified according to its duties and category (2.1 – 2.4). The stratification of the intensive care units is decided by the health care authorities, and the category specifics follow the European standard.

The question answered in this report is listed at [page 5](#).

NOTE! The statistics only contain units that have reported data to the Swedish Intensive Care Registry.
Missing units:

REMEO, Uppsala TIVA

Category III

General intensive care units at, for example, regional university hospitals, provide the most qualified monitoring and treatment methods that can be offered for different types of organ failure. Including special intensive care units for thoracic, pediatric, neuro- and burn intensive care.

| Meets requirements according to SFAI | | Does not meet SHOULD requirements according to SFAI | | | | | | | Does not meet requirements according to SFAI | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|---|-----|--------|-------|--------------|-----|------|--|------|------|------|------|
| | 1 | 2a | 2b | 3 | 4 | 5.1 | 5.2 | 5.3 | 6 / 7 | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 |
| K Huddinge IVA | III | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 9 / 4 | 0.44 | 0.89 | 0.67 | 2.22 |
| K Solna BIVA | III | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | No, 1 | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 6 / 2 | 0.67 | 0.67 | 0.67 | 2.33 |
| K Solna ECMO | III | No | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, <2 year | No | Yes | 4 / 2 | 0.50 | 1.00 | 0.75 | 2.25 |
| K Solna IVA | III | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 18 / 5 | 0.39 | 0.89 | 0.61 | 2.17 |
| K Solna TIVA | III | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | No, 3 | Yes, >2 year | No | Yes | 8 / 1 | 0.50 | 1.00 | 0.75 | 2.38 |
| Karlskrona TIVA | III | Yes | No | No | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 2 / 1 | 0.50 | 1.50 | 1.00 | 3.00 |
| Linköping BRIVA | III | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | No, 1 | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 2 / 2 | 0.50 | 1.00 | 2.50 | 4.00 |
| Linköping CIVA | III | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 8 / 2 | 0.38 | 0.62 | 1.00 | 2.25 |
| Linköping NIVA | III | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 6 / 2 | 0.33 | 1.83 | 2.00 | 4.50 |
| Linköping TIVA | III | Yes | No | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 6 / 2 | 0.33 | 0.67 | 0.83 | 2.17 |
| Örebro IVA | III | Yes | Yes | Yes, 2 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 8 / 1 | 0.25 | 0.62 | 0.62 | 1.75 |
| Örebro TIVA | III | Yes | No | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | Yes | 6 / 1 | 0.17 | 0.67 | 0.67 | 1.67 |
| SU BIVA | III | No | No | Yes, 2 | No, 1 | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 8 / 4 | 0.50 | 0.88 | 0.62 | 2.12 |
| SU CIVA | III | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 18 / 1 | 0.28 | 0.67 | 0.61 | 1.78 |
| SU Mölndal | III | Yes | No | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 5 / 0 | 0.20 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 1.80 |
| SU NIVA | III | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 8 / 0 | 0.25 | 0.75 | 0.62 | 1.88 |
| SU TIVA | III | No | No | Yes, 2 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | Yes | 12 / 1 | 0.33 | 0.67 | 0.58 | 1.75 |
| SUS Lund BIVA | III | No | No | Yes, 1 | No, 2 | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 4 / 3 | 0.50 | 0.75 | 1.00 | 2.25 |
| SUS Lund IVA | III | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 8 / 3 | 0.50 | 0.62 | 0.88 | 2.38 |
| SUS Lund NIVA | III | No | No | Yes, 1 | No, 1 | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 6 / 1 | 0.17 | 0.83 | 1.17 | 2.50 |
| SUS Lund TIVA | III | No | No | Yes, 2 | No, 1 | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 16 / 2 | 0.25 | 0.62 | 0.62 | 1.62 |
| SUS Malmö IVA | III | No | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 10 / 10 | 0.50 | 0.80 | 0.90 | 2.40 |
| Umeå IVA | III | Yes | Yes | Yes, 2 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | Yes | 10 / 1 | 0.50 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 1.90 |
| Umeå TIVA | III | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 6 / 0 | 0.17 | 1.00 | 0.50 | 2.00 |
| Uppsala BIVA | III | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 6 / 1 | 0.33 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 1.50 |
| Uppsala BRIVA | III | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 3 / 3 | 0.67 | 1.33 | 1.67 | 4.33 |
| Uppsala CIVA | III | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 8 / 3 | 0.50 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 2.25 |
| Uppsala NIVA | III | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | Yes | Yes | 8 / 1 | 0.38 | 0.62 | 0.75 | 2.00 |
| *Summary | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Category I | 0% | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Category II | 0% | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Category III | 100% | 75% | 25% | 68% | 75% | 54% | 57% | 100% | 8 / 2 | 86% | 0.78 | 0.77 | 100% |

*The summary shows:

For colored boxes - Percentage of green-/yellow marked boxes
For white boxes with numbers - Average value

Total number of intensive care beds
in all the units in Category III: 219

Website

<https://www.icuregswe.org>

E-mail

sir@icuregswe.org

Category II

Intensive care units in, for example, district hospitals control intensive care in acute disability in most organ systems, especially circulatory and respiratory failure, but they are missing the most qualified methods for monitoring / treating failure in one or more organ systems that can be offered in a category III units.

| Meets requirements according to SFAI | | Does not meet SHOULD requirements according to SFAI | | | | | | | Does not meet requirements according to SFAI | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|---|-----|--------|-------|--------------|-----|-----|--|------|------|------|------|
| | 1 | 2a | 2b | 3 | 4 | 5.1 | 5.2 | 5.3 | 6 / 7 | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 |
| Borås | II | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | No, 1 | Yes, EDIC | No | No | 7 / 1 | 0.29 | 0.71 | 0.57 | 1.86 |
| Danderyd | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 9 / 4 | 0.44 | 0.67 | 0.78 | 2.11 |
| Ersta | II | Yes | No | Yes, 4 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | Yes | 3 / 1 | 0.33 | 0.67 | 0.67 | 1.67 |
| Eskilstuna | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | Yes | 6 / 0 | 0.33 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 1.50 |
| Falun | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 3 | No, 1 | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 8 / 2 | 0.25 | 0.62 | 0.75 | 1.88 |
| Gällivare | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 2 / 1 | 0.50 | 1.50 | 1.00 | 3.00 |
| Gävle | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 2 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 6 / 1 | 0.33 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 1.67 |
| Halmstad | II | Yes | No | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 7 / 1 | 0.29 | 0.57 | 0.43 | 1.43 |
| Helsingborg | II | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 6 / 2 | 0.33 | 0.83 | 0.83 | 2.33 |
| Hudiksvall | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 5 / 2 | 0.20 | 1.00 | 0.60 | 2.00 |
| Jönköping | II | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 8 / 4 | 0.25 | 0.88 | 0.88 | 2.25 |
| Kalmar | II | Yes | No | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 7 / 1 | 0.29 | 0.57 | 0.57 | 1.57 |
| Karlskoga | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 4 / 1 | 0.25 | 0.50 | 0.75 | 1.50 |
| Karlskrona IVA | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 6 / 3 | 0.33 | 0.83 | 0.67 | 2.00 |
| Karlstad | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 8 / 1 | 0.38 | 0.62 | 0.50 | 1.75 |
| Kristianstad | II | No | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | Yes | 7 / 3 | 0.29 | 0.57 | 1.00 | 2.14 |
| Norrköping | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 6 / 2 | 0.33 | 0.67 | 0.83 | 2.00 |
| NU Trollhättan | II | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, <2 year | No | No | 8 / 8 | 0.38 | 0.75 | 0.62 | 1.88 |
| Nyköping | II | Yes | No | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 6 / 1 | 0.33 | 0.67 | 0.67 | 1.83 |
| Örnsköldsvik | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, <2 year | No | No | 5 / 2 | 0.20 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 1.60 |
| Östersund | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 7 / 1 | 0.29 | 0.71 | 0.57 | 1.86 |
| Skellefteå | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 7 / 3 | 0.29 | 0.57 | 0.57 | 1.71 |
| Skövde | II | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 8 / 1 | 0.38 | 0.62 | 1.00 | 2.12 |
| Södertälje | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 6 / 0 | 0.33 | 0.67 | 0.67 | 1.83 |
| SÖS IVA | II | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 12 / 2 | 0.33 | 0.67 | 0.58 | 1.83 |
| SÖS MIVA | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 6 / 2 | 0.50 | 0.83 | 0.50 | 2.33 |
| St Göran | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | Yes | 8 / 2 | 0.25 | 0.62 | 0.62 | 1.62 |
| SU Östra | II | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 6 / 0 | 0.33 | 0.83 | 1.00 | 2.67 |
| Sunderby | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, <2 year | No | No | 8 / 4 | 0.38 | 0.88 | 0.50 | 1.88 |
| Sundsvall | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 6 / 2 | 0.50 | 0.67 | 0.83 | 2.17 |
| Torsby | II | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 4 / 2 | 0.25 | 0.75 | 0.50 | 1.50 |
| Varberg | II | Yes | No | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 6 / 2 | 0.33 | 0.83 | 0.50 | 1.83 |
| Värnamo | II | No | No | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 4 / 1 | 0.25 | 0.50 | 0.75 | 2.00 |
| Västerås | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 3 | No, 1 | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 8 / 2 | 0.38 | 0.62 | 0.75 | 1.88 |
| Västervik | II | Yes | Yes | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | No | Yes | 5 / 1 | 0.20 | 0.60 | 1.20 | 2.20 |

*The summary shows:

For colored boxes - Percentage of green-/yellow marked boxes
For white boxes with numbers - Average value

Total number of intensive care beds
in all the units in Category II: 237

Website

<https://www.icuregswe.org>

E-mail

sir@icuregswe.org

Category II

Intensive care units in, for example, district hospitals control intensive care in acute disability in most organ systems, especially circulatory and respiratory failure, but they are missing the most qualified methods for monitoring / treating failure in one or more organ systems that can be offered in a category III units.

| | | Meets requirements according to SFAI | | | | | | | | Does not meet SHOULD requirements according to SFAI | | | | Does not meet requirements according to SFAI | | | |
|--------------|------|--------------------------------------|-----|--------|-------|--------------|-----|------|-------|---|------|------|------|--|---|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2a | 2b | 3 | 4 | 5.1 | 5.2 | 5.3 | 6 / 7 | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | | | |
| Växjö | II | No | Yes | Yes, 3 | No, 1 | Yes, >2 year | No | No | No | 6 / 4 | 0.33 | 0.83 | 0.83 | 2.17 | | | |
| Visby | II | Yes | No | Yes, 3 | No, 1 | Yes, >2 year | No | No | No | 3 / 2 | 0.67 | 1.67 | 1.00 | 3.67 | | | |
| Ystad | II | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, <2 year | No | No | No | 3 / 2 | 0.33 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 2.33 | | | |
| *Summary | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Category I | 0% | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Category II | 100% | 92% | 58% | 95% | 87% | 50% | 45% | 100% | 6 / 2 | 100% | 0.71 | 0.7 | 100% | | | | |
| Category III | 0% | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

*The summary shows:

For colored boxes - Percentage of green-/yellow marked boxes
For white boxes with numbers - Average value

Total number of intensive care beds
in all the units in Category II: 237

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Category I

Intensive care units in, for example, county hospitals control intensive care in acute disability in most organ systems, but they are missing opportunity to offer intensive care at the same level as category II and III departments.

| Meets requirements according to SFAI | | Does not meet SHOULD requirements according to SFAI | | | | | | | Does not meet requirements according to SFAI | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|---|-----|--------|-------|--------------|------|------|--|------|------|------|------|
| | 1 | 2a | 2b | 3 | 4 | 5.1 | 5.2 | 5.3 | 6 / 7 | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 |
| Alingsås | I | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | No, 1 | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 3 / 1 | 0.33 | 1.33 | 1.33 | 3.00 |
| Arvika | I | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 2 / 2 | 0.50 | 1.00 | 1.50 | 3.00 |
| Bollnäs | I | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | No, 1 | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 3 / 2 | 0.33 | 0.67 | 0.33 | 1.33 |
| Eksjö | I | No | No | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 4 / 2 | 0.25 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 2.50 |
| Kalix | I | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | No, 3 | No | Yes | Yes | 1 / 0 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 2.00 | 4.00 |
| Kungälv | I | No | No | Yes, 3 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 5 / 0 | 0.40 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 2.60 |
| Lindesberg | I | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 2 / 1 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 1.00 | 2.00 |
| Ljungby | I | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, EDIC | Yes | No | 0 / 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Lycksele | I | No | Yes | No | No, 1 | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 2 / 1 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 1.50 |
| Mora | I | Yes | Yes | Yes, 2 | No, 1 | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 4 / 0 | 0.25 | 1.00 | 0.50 | 2.00 |
| Norrköping | I | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, <2 year | No | No | 3 / 0 | 0.33 | 0.67 | 0.67 | 1.67 |
| Piteå | I | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 5 / 3 | 0.20 | 1.00 | 0.80 | 2.00 |
| Sollefteå | I | Yes | Yes | Yes, 1 | Yes | Yes, >2 year | No | No | 2 / 1 | 0.50 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 3.50 |
| SU Östra Inf | I | Yes | No | Yes, 1 | No, 1 | No | No | Yes | 2 / 2 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 1.00 | 2.50 |
| *Summary | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Category I | 100% | 79% | 64% | 86% | 100% | 86% | 100% | 100% | 3 / 1 | 100% | 0.92 | 0.97 | 100% |
| Category II | 0% | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Category III | 0% | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

*The summary shows:

For colored boxes - Percentage of green-/yellow marked boxes
For white boxes with numbers - Average value

Total number of intensive care beds
in all the units in Category I: 38

Website

<https://www.icuregswe.org>

E-mail

sir@icuregswe.org

Frågor

1. Which ICU category does the unit belong to?
2. Does the unit register data for all the care episodes according to the SIR basic data set and the data required for all the quality indicators?
 - 2a. Answer reported by the unit
 - 2b. Answer calculated by SIR, based on the submitted data
3. Does the unit have hospital-based anesthesia and intensive care on-call services?
 - 3.1. Yes with minimum expertise of
 - 3.1.1. 1 Specialist in anesthesia and intensive care
 - 3.1.2. 2 Resident in anesthesia and intensive care with less than 1 year left to specialist competence, at least 6 months of intensive care training and access to supervision from another hospital-based on-call service that is specialist in anesthesia and intensive care
 - 3.1.3. 3 Resident in anesthesia and intensive care
 - 3.1.4. 4 Hospital-based on-call service by a licensed physician but not meeting criteria above
 - 3.1.5. 5 Hospital-based on call service that does not meet any of the criteria above
 - 3.2. No, but there is a physician on call on-call service
4. Do all the nurses working with intensive care in the unit, a specialist training in intensive care nursing?
 - 4.1. Yes
 - 4.2. No
 - 4.2.1. For an individual shift, what is the percentage of nurses who have a specialist training in intensive care nursing?
 - 4.2.1.1. 1 At least half
 - 4.2.1.2. 2 Less than half
 - 4.2.1.3. 3 Not all but the rest are currently participating in specialist training
5. The competence of doctors with medical management responsibility for the department?
 - 5.1. Specialist in anesthesia and intensive care
 - 5.1.1. No
 - 5.1.2. Yes
 - 5.1.2.1. Specialist in anesthesia and intensive care with continuous service in intensive care > 2 years?
 - 5.1.2.1.1. **EDIC** Yes, including EDIC 1 and 2
 - 5.1.2.1.2. >2 år Yes, but not EDIC 1 och 2
 - 5.1.2.1.3. <2 år No, no continuous service in intensive care > 2 years
 - 5.2. 2-year education in intensive care and approved degree EDIC 1 and 2?
 - 5.3. Scientific qualification corresponding to at least a doctoral degree?
6. How many available ICU beds are there in the unit? (1-40)
7. How many isolation rooms does the unit have? (1-40)
8. Staffing requirements on a normal day during office hours?
 - 8.1. Intensivists with specialty training, total per care place (for Category I applies 1/unit for fulfillment)
 - 8.2. Number of nurses, total per care place
 - 8.3. Number of assistant nurses, total per care place
 - 8.4. All clinically active staff including all doctors, total per care place