

HOW IS IT TO BE AN ENDOSCOPIC NURSE IN SWEDEN? A NATIONAL SURVEY INCLUDING 67 NURSES PERFORMING ENDOSCOPY

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A Swedish survey of 67 endoscopy nurses shows that most find their professional role positive and rewarding after more than 20 years of practice, though one-third have experienced opposition and 60% report salary dissatisfaction.

KEY POINTS

- Response rate was 96% (67/70 nurses); median age 50, median 5 years performing endoscopy, performing a median of 350 gastroscopies and 600 colonoscopies annually.
- Doctors assess all referrals in 100% of cases; physician consultation during endoscopy is rare, usually provided within 2-5 minutes when needed for large polyps, cancer, or difficult bleeding, and doctors rarely take over procedures.
- Almost all nurses (98%) appraise pathology results, and 62% are involved in endoscopic education and mentorship, with 80% of those teaching residents.
- While 69% experience strong positive support from the medical team, 34% have felt opposed on various occasions, predominantly by doctors (82%) but also by other nurses (18%).
- Median salary is approximately 4120 euros (range 2900-5870), which 60% of nurses find unsatisfactory, suggesting areas for professional improvement despite overall job satisfaction.

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