



Strål
säkerhets
myndigheten

Swedish Radiation Safety Authority

Systematic monitoring and evaluation of work practices - an important aspect of improving radiation safety for patients

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Background

- Inspections performed by the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority (SSM) have shown that radiographers do not follow basic radiation protection guidelines to reduce the radiation dose to patients.
- Insufficient monitoring of compliance to guidelines by hospital management.
- Systematic monitoring and evaluation of work practices - an important aspect of improving safety for patients.

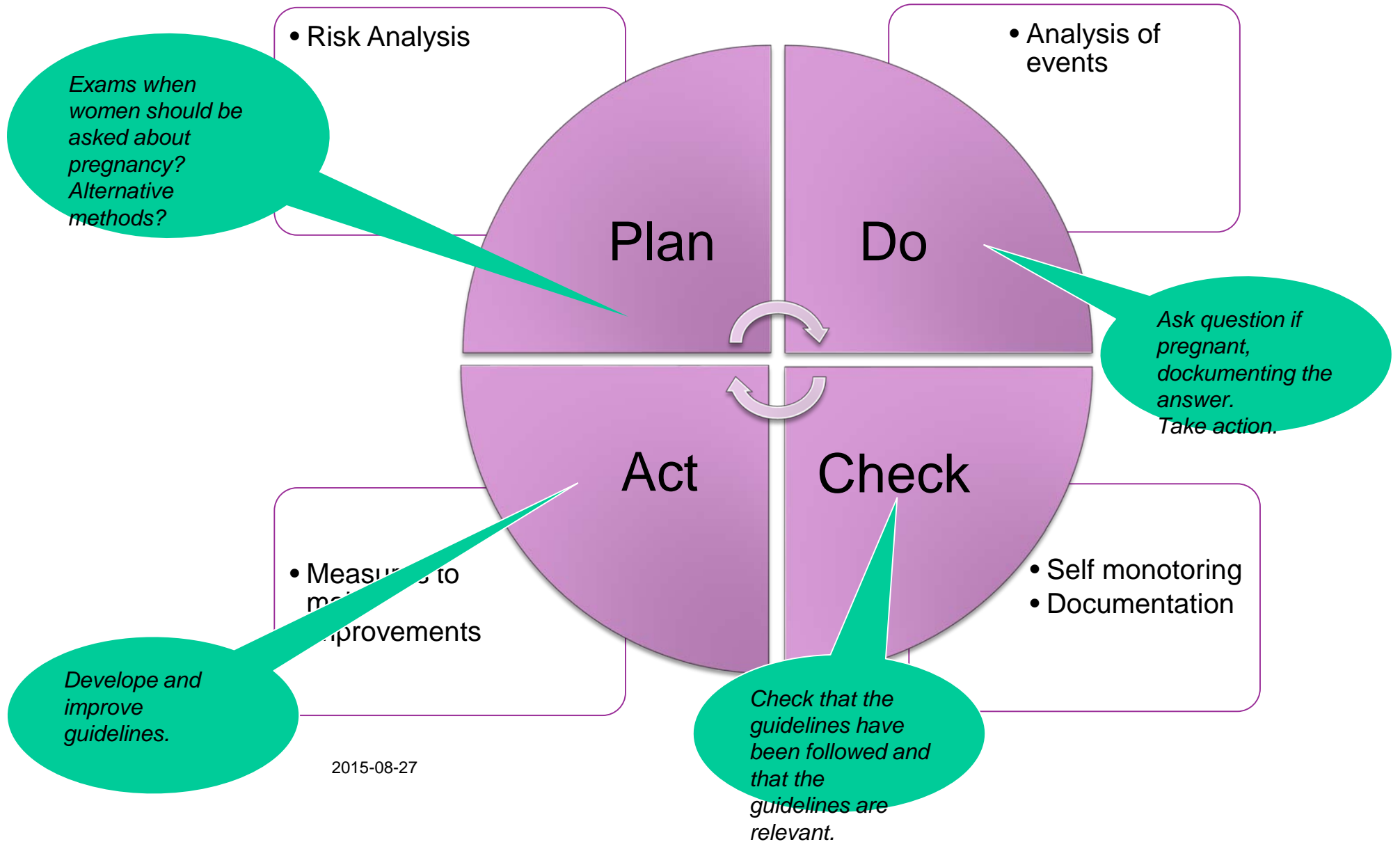


Basic radiation protection guidelines

- ➔ Identity check
- ➔ Question if pregnant
- ➔ Lead shielding of gonads
- ➔ Use of compression



Continuous improvements





Performance

- In 2012, 199 radiological departments in Sweden were requested to report on existing guidelines regarding basic radiation protection.
- 13 radiological departments lacked guidelines.



Follow-up in 2013 & 2014

- ➔ 94 radiological departments were requested to evaluate their compliance to existing guidelines.
- ➔ In 2013, only 33 per cent of participating radiological departments were able to evaluate compliance.
- ➔ In 2014, the percentage had increased to 93.

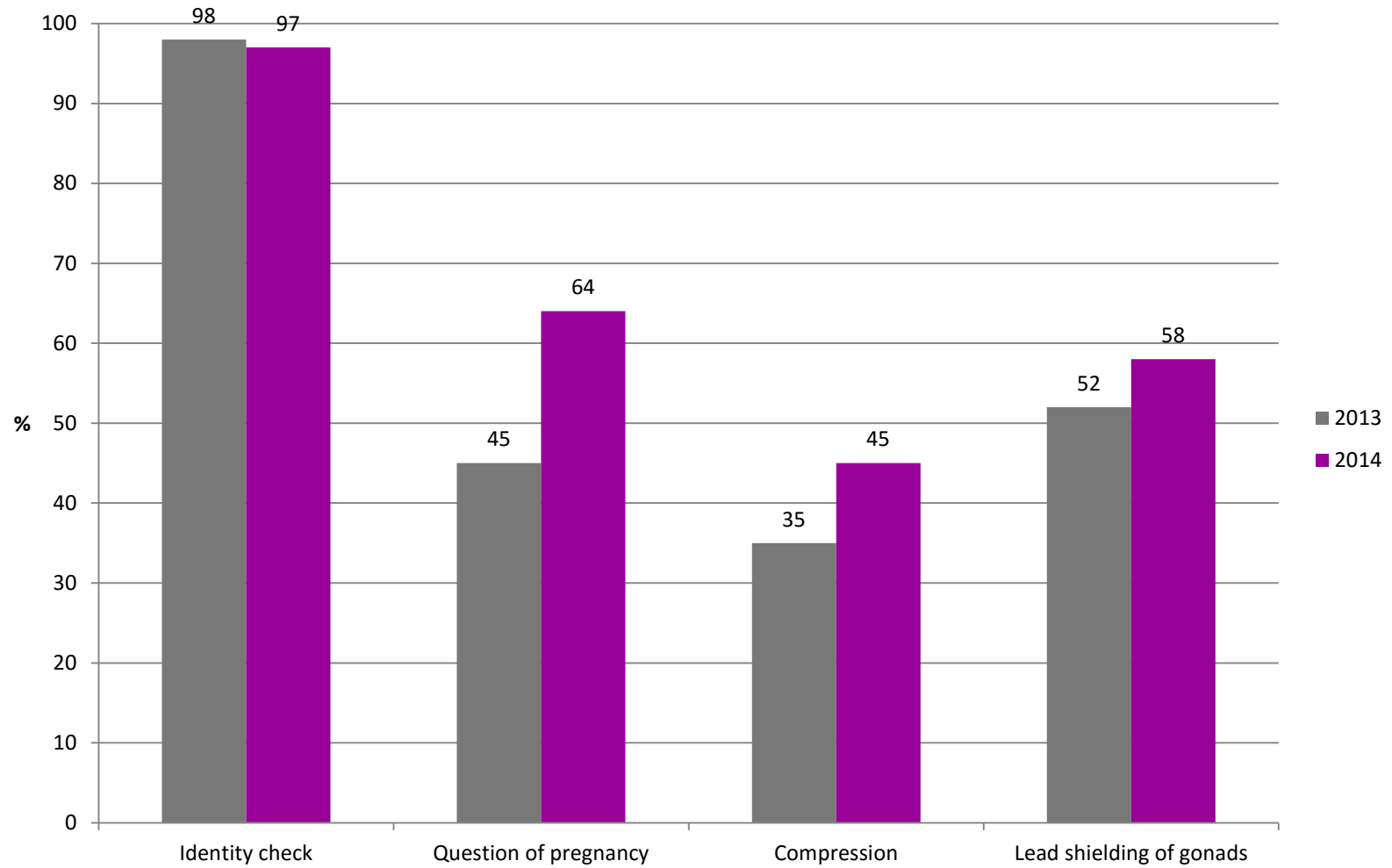


Results

- ➔ Almost all radiological departments are able to evaluate compliance to existing guidelines.
- ➔ Average compliance of about 50 per cent - a great potential for improvement.



Comparisons between 2013 & 2014



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**Thank you for your
attention!**