

For some common radiographic examinations, the EU has published guidelines that give diagnostic requirements, criteria for radiation dose and examples of good radiographic technique. The requirements include both image criteria and important image details and apply to 'standard sized' patients with the usual symptoms for that type of examination. The image criteria relate to important anatomical structures that should be visible in the images. Typically, the criteria are expressed in several degrees of visibility.

For example 'visually sharp reproduction' means that the details are clearly defined, whereas 'visualization' reflects a situation where the details are detected but not fully reproduced. The list of important image details gives the minimum dimensions in the image at which normal or abnormal anatomical details should be recognizable. The criteria have been further developed over the years to be ) more specific to changes in the imaging condition for use in visual grading evaluation of clinical images