

Simulation model can determine efficient allocation of beds among subspecialties

A simulation model has been developed and validated which represents patient movement through multiple bed services. The model is based on actual patient flow patterns identified from a hospital's historical data on admissions, discharges, and transfers. The model can be used for determining the appropriate allocation of beds, including intensive care beds, among different specialties and subspecialties by providing data on performance measures such as occupancy, turnaways, and accommodations for given bed levels, admission rates, and lengths of stay.

Lowery JC. Design of hospital admissions scheduling system using simulation. Proceedings of the 1996 Winter Simulation Conference (J Charnes and D Morrice, eds.). Baltimore: Association of Computing Machinery, 1996. Contact: Julie Lowery, PhD, (734) 930-5111, e-mail at jlowery@umich.edu.