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DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY TRAINING FOR GREENLAND.
A MODEL FOR AREAS WITH SCATTERED POPULATION

INDEXED

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The huge ice-desert of Greenland has 50.000 inhabitants spread along the coastline with difficult transport options. Low power X-ray facilities exist in 15 small hospitals. Since no radiologists and radiographers can be employed, a project for up-to-date radiodiagnostic services was implemented in 1979.

A thorough analysis of the medical, technical, environmental, social and educational conditions provided the basis for education of local operators of the machines. A curriculum based upon 300 hours schooling divided into two courses, combined with 10 months of intermediate education by correspondence, was sufficient to satisfy the demands for positioning, exposure techniques, dark room work and fault-finding. These operators are able to perform high quality skeleton, chest and plain abdominal investigations.

General practitioners attended a three-day intensive course in film reading for skeleton, chest and abdominal investigations, and principles of quality control. The expenditures were US\$8200 per operator and less than US\$100 per physician. The improvement in the standard of radiodiagnostics in Greenland led to a proposal for a new project to be completed in 1982. The entire radiographic work in 1982 will be managed by local Eskimo manpower.

References:

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