Introduction

In recent years genetic research has lead to the development of new medications to treat rare diseases. If health authorities approve reimbursement of the new medications, there will be less money available under the current budget for other treatments. Should health authorities prioritize treatment of rare diseases? There are no right or wrong answers to such questions. In this survey, we would like to learn your opinions about which treatments should be covered by the national health services.

Question 1

Imagine that the health authorities have received some extra funding that can be used to treat 100 patients. The health authorities must decide which of two similar diseases should be treated: Disease A, a rare disease (100 cases in Norway), or Disease B, a common disease (10,000 cases in Norway). Diseases A and B are equally severe. Patients have difficulty moving about and experience extreme pain. For both patient groups, treatment will result in patients being completely healthy. How do you think the extra funding should be used?

- Treatment of 100 patients with Disease A (rare disease)
- Treatment of 100 patients with Disease B (common disease)
- Indifferent

Divide the extra funding between the two patient groups by clicking on and sliding the green pointer [(not shown here). Note: Radio buttons indicate potential choices but were not visible.]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>A:100</th>
<th>B:0</th>
<th>90</th>
<th>80</th>
<th>70</th>
<th>60</th>
<th>50</th>
<th>40</th>
<th>30</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A:0</td>
<td>B:100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Question 2

If it is possible to divide the extra funding so that both patients with Disease A (rare) and patients with Disease B (common) can be treated, how would you recommend dividing the extra funds?

Question 3

Now imagine that it is less expensive to treat Disease B than Disease A. With the extra funding it is now possible to treat 100 patients with Disease A or 800 patients with Disease B.
Otherwise, everything is the same as before: The diseases are equally severe and the health benefit is the same for each patient. How do you think the extra funding should be used?

- Treatment of 100 patients with Disease A (rare disease)
- Treatment of 800 patients with Disease B (common disease)
- Indifferent

**Question 4**
If it is possible to divide the extra funding so that both patients with Disease A (rare) and patients with Disease B (common) can be treated, how would you recommend dividing the extra funds?

*Divide the extra funding between the two patient groups by clicking on and sliding the green pointer [(not shown here). Note: Radio buttons indicate potential choices but were not visible.]*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease A: 100</th>
<th>90</th>
<th>80</th>
<th>70</th>
<th>60</th>
<th>50</th>
<th>40</th>
<th>30</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>Disease B: 800</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B: 0</td>
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