Abstract

The county council of Värmland is taking part in a larger project which in general consists of surveying malign melanoma within different families. Counties in Sweden are following-up on patients suffering from malign melanoma, which is likely to have inheritable causes. When a suspected heritable malign melanoma is found an investigation is started. A pedigree is drawn, describing the propositus' family.

Every individual in the pedigree is represented by a symbol. The appearance of this symbol is determined by: unhealthy/healthy, diseased/alive, man/woman. When the individuals have been identified and the according symbols drawn, the symbols are connected by lines representing kinship.

Today the pedigrees are drawn by hand using pen and paper. This is a time consuming task and the appearance differ depending on who is drawing the pedigree.

The result of our problem-analysis is a graphical software tool. On a drawing area the user may draw the symbols on predefined locations. The tool also allows for symbols to be connected with lines. Symbols are connected through selecting a start-symbol and an end-symbol.