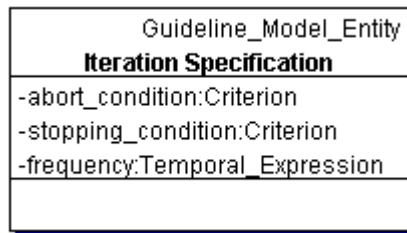


Package *Iteration_Package***Classes****class** [Iteration_Package.Iteration_Specification](#)**Class Diagram**

The Iteration_Specification class specifies information regarding the loop structure of the iteration. The action- and decision steps that should be iterated, that references the Iteration_Specification, are iterated until the abort condition or stopping condition criteria hold. The iterations are carried out at a certain (fuzzy) frequency (e.g., every 8h +/- 30min or, 3 times a day). If the iteration does occur within the specified frequency, then the iteration time points remain according to schedule, and are not reset (e.g., the patient came in after 8 1/2 hours. The next iteration should take place after 7 1/2 hours). Some frequencies may have a specified allowed offset. This means that if the iteration began outside the fuzzy frequency, but within the offset, then the iteration takes place and the iteration points are reset. For example, the patient came back after 9 hours. He gets treated (since the offset is 8 +/-2 h) but the next iteration is 8 hours late.

Class Detail**Class** [Iteration_Package.Iteration_Specification](#)**Inherits from:**

Guideline_Model_Entity

Description:

The *Iteration_Specification* class specifies information regarding the loop structure of the iteration. The thing to be iterated, that references the *Iteration_Specification*, is iterated until the abort condition or stopping condition *criteria* hold. The iterations are carried out at a certain(fuzzy) frequency (e.g., every 8h +/- 30min or, 3 times a day). If the iteration does occur within the specified frequency, then the iteration time points remain according to schedule, and are not reset (e.g., the patient came in after 8 1/2 hours. The next iteration should take place after 7 1/2 hours). Some frequencies may have a specified allowed offset. This means that if the iteration began outside the fuzzy frequency, but within the offset, then the iteration takes place and the iteration points are reset. For example, The patient came back after 9 hours. He gets treated (since the offset is 8 +/-2 h) but the next iteration is 8 hours late.

Purpose:To specify iteration information **Considerations:**

1. Executing an action at irregular intervals can be either modeled as an iteration or not. For example, a visit schedule that says: "visit every 5 weeks for 5 months and then every 2 weeks" is an iteration, but an immunization schedule may be modeled as an action (Immunization) that is event triggered (and not as give shot every 1 month for month, then every 2 months for 2 months, etc.).
2. Sometimes one wishes to give 1-2 pills every 4-5 hours, but no more than 8 pills within 24 hours. The iteration is still every 4-5 hours, but the dose that is determined for each iteration is dependant on previous doses and may be equal to zero.

Attributes[abort_condition](#)[frequency](#)[stopping_condition](#)**Attribute Detail**

abort_condition

Data type: Criterion

Multiplicity: 0:1

Description: the expression under which the iteration is aborted. A value of -1 means iterate forever

Level: B

frequency

Data type: Temporal_Expression

Multiplicity: 0:1

Description: the frequency is either vague, e.g., 3 times a day, or fully specied, i.e., every 8 hours

Level: B and C

stopping_condition

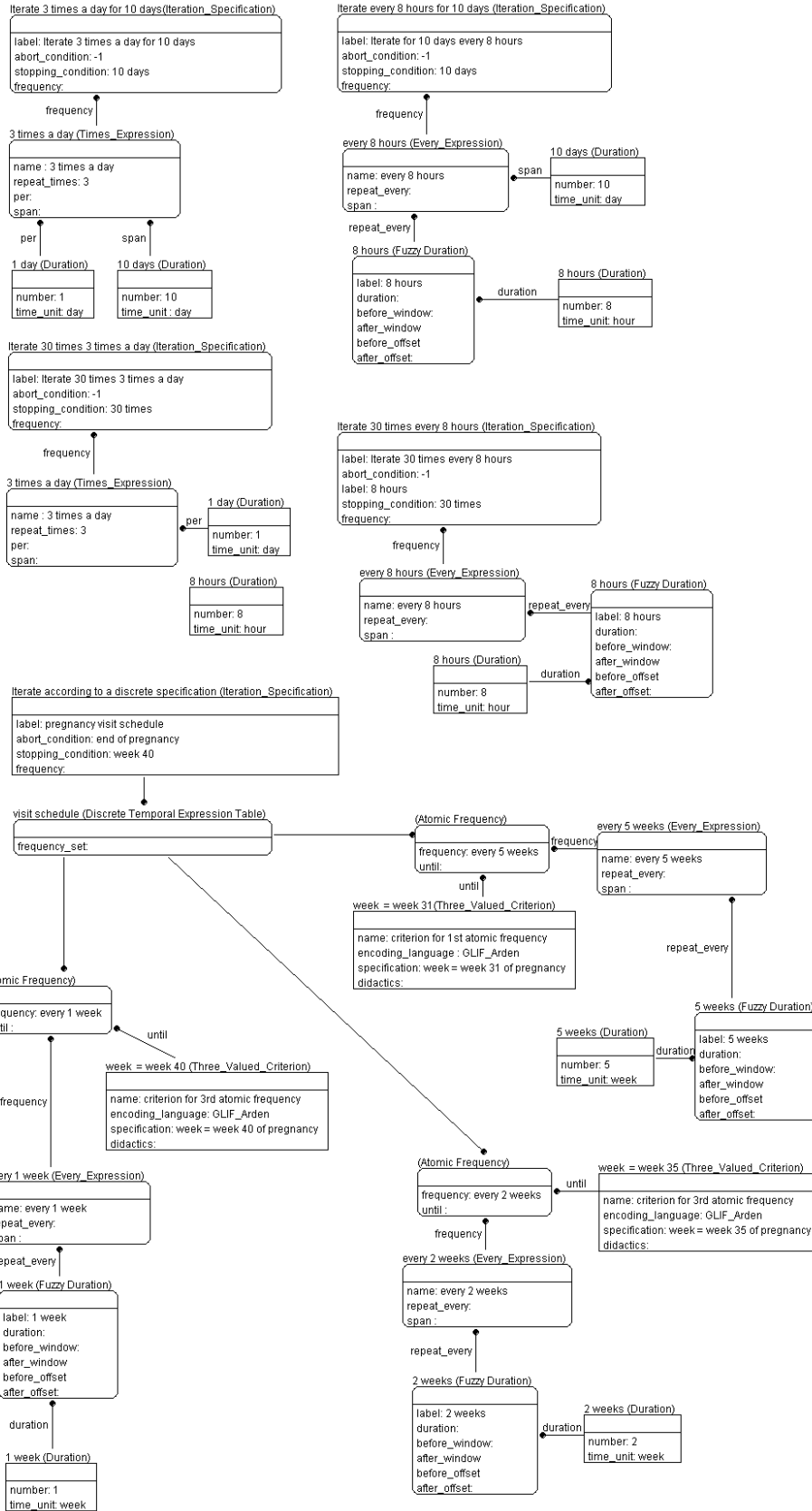
Data type: Expression

Multiplicity: 0:1

Description: the expression under which the iteration should terminate. A value of -1 means iterate forever.

Level: B

Example:



Examples of Iteration Specifications including loose, tight and discrete temporal criteria

- (a) Iterate 10 days every 8 hours.
- (b) Iterate 10 days 3 times a day.
- (c) Iterate 30 times 3 times a day.
- (d) Iterate 30 times every 8 hours.
- (e) Iterate according to a discrete specification.