

To whom it may concern,

The Brazilian Ministry of Health uses the Global Burden of Disease 2017 for the estimation of total maternal deaths due to abortion and miscarriage.

The Global Burden of Disease study (GBD) is an annual peer-reviewed study that uses the best scientifically recognized methods in the estimation of deaths and other health burdens resulting from disease, injuries, and risk factors.

Maternal deaths due to abortion are estimated with the cause of death ensemble modelling (CODEm) framework. The framework produces a diverse set of plausible models to capture well-documented associations with estimates. The ensemble modelling framework uses out-of-sample predictive validity to assess individual model strength and a weight is applied to individual models in order to select the ensemble model with the highest out-of-sample predictive validity.

GBD cause of death estimates in Brazil rely on Ministry of Health, Brazil Mortality Information System from 1980 to 2016.

Maternal disorder cause of death estimates and estimation methods are reviewed by experts in causes of death registration and estimation; maternal disorder experts, and experts by estimation location.

JU1/62/2018

Sincerely

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