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Activity: Participants and instructors should review the 'ANACoD version 1.0 Guidance' document, Step 7, for additional information about the use of age patterns of broad groups of causes of death.

Demographers and epidemiologists have used many years of data and observations on patterns of causes of death in different settings to develop the expected age patterns for cause of death. Any significant

deviation from the expected pattern that cannot be explained by some local, external factor should be viewed as a potential problem with the quality of the cause of death data.







Presenter

As countries develop their health systems, communicable diseases such as diarrhoea and pneumonia, as well as maternal, perinatal and nutritional risks will be increasingly brought under control. As a result, more and more people will survive to adulthood where chronic diseases such as ischaemic heart disease, stroke, cancer and chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases, claim more and more lives. Hence, the simple ratio of Group II

deaths/Group I deaths should progressively increase as a country moves through the epidemiological transition (i.e. as life expectancy increases).

Deviations from the ratios for countries in similar income levels indicate potential errors in the cause of death data.

For Colombia, an upper middle income country, the ratios are similar, though Colombia may slightly overestimate the number of non-communicable deaths. This observation is consistent with previous findings that suggest HIV and other communicable diseases may be under-reported.





Presenter

Activity: Participants and instructors should review the 'ANACoD version 1.0 Guidance' document, Step 9, for additional information about the use of the ratio of non-communicable to communicable diseases.



