

## National cause-of-death data in the English-and Dutch-speaking Caribbean, 2000-2010: A quality assessment

In order to review the quality of national cause-of-death data reported by the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean for the period 2000-2010 data were extracted from the CARPHA regional mortality database (as at November 2013) and analysed using the four types of “garbage codes” developed by Naghavi et al. [1] (2010). An analysis of the total proportion of garbage codes reported annually was conducted and compared to a review of CARPHA initiatives to improve quality of cause-of-death data. Additionally, the four types of garbage codes were analysed by country, year and age group.

### Garbage Code Groupings and corresponding ICD-10 codes (Naghavi et al. 2010)

<i>GC Type</i>	<i>Description</i>
<i>Type 1 Causes that cannot or should not be considered as UCs</i>	Codes primarily used for describing conditions for which health services are sought; conditions not considered to be UCs
<i>Type 2 Intermediate causes of death</i>	Includes conditions which would have had an UC, e.g., heart failure, septicemia, peritonitis, osteomyelitis or pulmonary embolism
<i>Type 3 Immediate causes of death</i>	Conditions considered to be the final stage in the train of events leading to death, e.g., cardiac arrest, respiratory failure not elsewhere classified
<i>Type 4 Unspecified causes of death</i>	Includes conditions with unspecified sites, e.g. injuries due to unspecified factors or intent, neoplasms of unspecified site.

- [1. Proportion of deaths attributed to garbage Codes by CARPHA member states, 2000-201](#)
- [2. Proportion of deaths attributed to different types of garbage codes CARPHA member states, 2000-2010](#)
- [3. Proportion of deaths attributed to garbage codes for CARPHA member states using the latest available year of data\\*](#)
- [4. Proportion of deaths attributed to garbage codes by age group for CARPHA member states using the latest available year of data\\*](#)