

Provincial level

MR review by trained internal medicine specialists

VA review by trained general practitioners

Potential sources of error

Standard medical certificate of cause of death

Incorrect cause(s) of death / disease sequence

ICD coding of all listed causes by coders

Incorrect code(s)

Selection of underlying cause of death by certifying physicians

Incorrect application of rules for selecting underlying cause

Central level

100% review by central team of expert coders

DECISION

Underlying cause accepted

Underlying cause / code changed

Final adjudication by study team expert

Agreement

Incorrect

Disagreement

FINAL VERDICT