

Peer Review Report

Review Report on Cancer mortality by ethnicity in Colombia between 2011 and 2022: A population-based study

Original Article, Int J Public Health

Reviewer: Vittorio Simeon

Submitted on: 05 Nov 2024

Article DOI: 10.3389/ijph.2025.1607975

EVALUATION

Q 1 Please summarize the main findings of the study.

In the manuscript 'Cancer mortality by ethnicity in Colombia between 2011 and 2022: A population-based study' the authors examined cancer mortality rates in Colombia among ethnic groups (Indigenous, Rom, Raizal, Afro-Colombian, and Mestizo) and assessed trends from 2011 to 2022.

This population-based study uses information and data provided by the DANE in Colombia and Census data. The authors highlighted disparities in cancer mortality in ethnic minorities and paid attention to investigating cancer etiology and access to Health System care.

Q 2 Please highlight the limitations and strengths.

This is an interesting work on an interesting topic and, in my opinion, there are some suggestions to consider.

Methods

- 1) the STROBE checklist, as this is an observational study, could be used for proper reporting of all information
- 2) The paragraph on methods lacks any information on a) the statistical tests used, b) how the confidence intervals were calculated, c) how the variables under study were described
- 3) The software used is indicated but not, as for the joint analysis, the statistical procedure

Results

- 1) Figure 1 shows age-adjusted estimates but not, in turn, stratified by gender. Is this not possible? Do you have the information to make this double adjustment?
- 2) In the joint analysis figure, markedly different trends are evident, in the results, and later in the discussion these aspects should be clarified. What are the researchers' assumptions?

Discussion

The paragraph on the "limitations of the study" is missing; every study may have limitations.

I would ask the authors to reflect on possible information bias, selection, and confounding.

From this point of view, it would be interesting to understand why the level of education, although present among the available variables, was not analyzed. Can the authors answer this question?

Q 3 Please provide your detailed review report to the authors. The editors prefer to receive your review structured in major and minor comments. Please consider in your review the methods (statistical methods valid and correctly applied (e.g. sample size, choice of test), is the study replicable based on the method description?), results, data interpretation and references. If there are any objective errors, or if the conclusions are not supported, you should detail your concerns.

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PLEASE COMMENT

Q 4 Is the title appropriate, concise, attractive?

Yes

Q 5 Are the keywords appropriate?

Yes

Q 6 Is the English language of sufficient quality?

Yes

Q 7 Is the quality of the figures and tables satisfactory?

Yes.

Q 8 Does the reference list cover the relevant literature adequately and in an unbiased manner?)

Yes

QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Q 9 Originality



Q 10 Rigor



Q 11 Significance to the field



Q 12 Interest to a general audience



Q 13 Quality of the writing



Q 14 Overall scientific quality of the study



REVISION LEVEL

Q 15 Please make a recommendation based on your comments:

Major revisions.