

DEATH RATE

Outcome indicator, Cluster indicator

Indicator Phrasing

English: % of children who died from any cause while registered in the treatment program

French: % d'enfants décédés de n'importe quelle cause pendant qu'ils étaient inscrits au programme de traitement

Portuguese: % de crianças que faleceram de qualquer causa enquanto registadas no programa de tratamento

Czech: % dětí, které zemřely z jakékoli příčiny během účasti v terapeutickém programu

What is its purpose?

The death rate is one of the four core performance indicators of malnutrition treatment programs. It represents the proportion of discharged children who died from any cause while registered in the program.

How to Collect and Analyse the Required Data

To **calculate the indicator's value**, divide the number of children who died while registered in the treatment program by the total number of discharged children. Multiply the result by 100 to convert it to a percentage. The resulting number is the death rate (in percentages).

Disaggregate by

[Disaggregate](#) the data by gender, geographic area, and age groups.

Important Comments

1) The indicator **does not require a separate survey** – all data can be gained from the treatment program's regular records.

2) According to the **Sphere Standards**, in the case of severe acute malnutrition (SAM), a death rate of less than 10% is perceived as "acceptable" (note: in practice, the death rate in many programs is less than 5%). In the case of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), the threshold is 3%.

3) The **four core performance indicators** of a malnutrition treatment program (esp. the Community

Management of Acute Malnutrition, CMAM) are [recovery rate](#), death rate, [default rate](#) and [non-recovery rate](#).

Access Additional Guidance

- SCH (2015) [Standardised Indicators and Categories for Better CMAM Reporting](#)
- [Sphere Standards - SAM](#)
- [Sphere Standards - MAM](#)
- [Nutrition Cluster Indicators Registry \(incl. thresholds\)](#)