

Table 6: Validation characteristics of verbal autopsy procedures for 20 leading causes of hospital deaths, Thailand, 2005

Cause of death	Medical record (MR) diagnoses	Verbal autopsy (VA) diagnoses	Validation scores for VA		
			Sensitivity	PPV	CSMF change in VA (%)*
Cerebrovascular diseases	269	285	69.1	65.3	6.5
Diabetes mellitus	158	224	63.9	45.1	41.8
Ischaemic heart disease	203	199	49.8	50.8	-1.9
Transport accidents	185	199	97.8	91.0	7.6
Chronic lower respiratory diseases	143	147	61.5	59.9	2.9
HIV	191	123	60.7	94.3	-35.6
Lung cancer	84	99	79.8	67.7	17.9
Diseases of the liver	112	93	44.6	53.8	-17.1
Malignant neoplasm of liver	65	88	78.5	58.0	35.3
Other genitourinary diseases	107	86	30.8	38.4	-18.8
Other heart diseases	64	65	15.6	15.4	0.0
Pneumonia	85	61	21.2	29.5	-28.2
Hypertensive diseases	58	54	12.1	13.0	-6.6
Respiratory tuberculosis	31	46	32.3	21.7	48.8
Colorectal cancer	33	45	84.8	62.2	36.4
Falls	35	39	60.0	53.8	11.7
Assault	33	38	90.9	78.9	15.5
Remainder of malignant neoplasms	37	34	27.0	29.4	-8.3
Other digestive disorders	53	34	20.8	32.4	-36.1
All other external causes	30	34	50.0	44.1	16.7
All other causes	582	565			
Total deaths	2558	2558			

* indicates the change in cause-specific mortality fractions (CSMF) on applying VA: +ve change indicates overdiagnosis by VA; -ve change indicates underdiagnosis by VA