

Reporting practices for burden of disease studies

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Background

- The **complexity** of the **DALY metric** resulted in major disparities in research capacity across Europe
- Variations and inconsistencies in the **application** and **reporting** of **DALY methods** have been identified
- In 2021, a working group of burden of disease experts was formed by the **European Burden of Disease Network** (burden-eu) aiming to **promote good practices in reporting DALY calculation methods**

Aim & Development

- To **develop guidelines for reporting DALY-calculation studies** which will enhance transparency and comparability of burden of disease estimates across Europe and beyond
- ***Standardised Reporting of Burden of Disease studies (STROBOD) statement***
- A list of **DALY-calculation items** was generated based on existing literature, guidance for developing guidelines, and consultations with other experts
- Pilot; Feedback; Evaluation; and Agreement on the list of items

Results & Conclusion

- **25 items:** methods for data corrections, data input sources, methodological design choices, methods dealing with uncertainty. We provided **interpretation** and rationale of each reporting item along with **examples**

Report the age-conditional life expectancy used for calculating Years of Life Lost (i.e., national, regional, or aspirational life tables) or other methods (e.g., potential years of life lost, proportion of premature deaths under a selected age threshold etc).

For each age group, YLLs were estimated by multiplying the number of deaths due to COVID-19, denoted by D , by the specific remaining life expectancy RLE from the GBD reference life table 2019 [28]:

$$YLLs = D \times RLE$$

- The **STROBOD guidelines** can be used by authors, reviewers, and/or journal editors in order to **promote consistencies in reporting DALY estimates** in burden of disease studies.

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