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Subject: Re: Causes of maternal mortality  
Posted by [maternalresearch](#) on Wed, 23 Sep 2020 21:39:51 GMT  
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Many thanks for your response, I am very grateful.

I eventually tracked down the clinical data from which this estimate was taken (it was a different, uncited source). However, I still have queries regarding your response:

- 1) Another paper I have seen recently cites the Kenya 1998 DHS for an estimate of causes of maternal death.
- 2) The Pakistan 2006-2007 DHS report itself explicitly gives some data for causes of maternal death (by percentage): <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR200/FR200.pdf> on pages 179-180.
- 3) The recode manuals do mention variable 'mm11' which is the cause of maternal death. So it does seem in principle possible to give estimates of the proportion of maternal deaths for each cause. The DHS guide says that because it is a relatively rare event, MMR calculated from the DHS is subject to large sampling errors. But it does still seem in principle that you could get very bad estimates of the proportion of maternal deaths by each cause, even if these estimates are virtually worthless.

Given 2) and 3), it definitely seems like some data is collected re: cause of maternal deaths. I'd be really grateful to know whether this data exists specifically for Kenya 1998 DHS (and has been used irresponsibly), or whether the data is completely non-existent (and therefore completely made up).

Thanks so much again.

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