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Using factors analysis to determine the most important disease causes: Under-five mortality in Tabuk Region, 2017

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Familiarity and understanding of causes of death among children aged under five years' old are essential to developing policy and programs. The causes of under-five mortality rate (U5MR) help decision makers assess programmatic needs, prioritize interventions and monitor progress. This study investigates the main causes of disease-related U5MR in Tabuk Region. It introduces the definition of U5MR and provides an overview of its scale, its direct causes and underlying causative factors, as well as analyzing key interventions needed to avert child mortality and morbidity. Data from the 2000-2015 Ministry of Health annual statistical reports were used to determine disease-related mortality of children aged under five in the Tabuk Region. Factor analysis was used to analyze the data and reduce the main causal factors for U5MR. The study identified two main causative factors in U5MR in Tabuk Region: (1) communicable diseases, perinatal and nutritional conditions; and (2) non-communicable diseases and children's injuries are reduced form the all diseases that cause the death of U5MR in the existing framework over the study period, 2000-2015.

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