

Additional file 3 The chronological development of death registration practices of TURKSTAT-DRS

Years	The development of TURKSTAT-DRS
1931	TURKSTAT started to collect cause of death statistics
1931-1949	TURKSTAT collected cause of death statistics for most populous 25 provincial centers.
1950-1956	TURKSTAT collected cause of death statistics for all provincial centers.
1957	The coverage of cause of death statistics were expanded to all provincial and district centers.
2003	Upgrading the Statistical System of Turkey Program cooperation with European Statistical Office (Eurostat) was started.
2005	The Law of Turkish Statistical Institute (Law No: 5429) was constituted in order to establish TURKSTAT's duties and responsibilities.
2008	The TURKSTAT Death Certificate has been adapted to international standards for recording multiple causes of death. All physicians across the country were trained about filling the TURKSTAT Death Certificate and the functioning of the system by the end of 2008. The reference physicians who are responsible for data quality from each province and each health institution were selected. The reference physicians are obliged to check the quality of data and the continuity of training.
2009	Reformed TURKSTAT-DRS has started to implement. ICD-10 instead of ICD-8 was adopted in the coding of cause of death. Death records collected by the MERNIS and TURKSTAT-DRS has started to reconcile.
2013	TURKSTAT started to compile data from death certificates in electronic formats.

Source: Turkish Statistical Institute