

# Lethality Rate

**English:** *lethality rate, lethality*



Lethality = number of deaths / over number of sick with **a specific disease** (x100) It is also known as **Case fatality rate**. It is the proportion of cases in a designated population of a particular disease, which die in a specified period of time.

**Note:** lethality is *a better measure* of clinical significance of the disease than mortality. For example: *Naegleria fowleri* has a much higher lethality (it will surely kill you once you get it), than heart attacks who have a higher mortality, that is, more people die from heart attacks (due to much higher prevalence of cardiac disease) rather than from *N. fowleri* infection (very low prevalence).

## Links

### Related articles

- Basic Health Indicators

### Bibliography

- BENCKO, Vladimír, et al. *Hygiene and Epidemiology : Selected Chapters*. 2nd edition. Prague. 2004. ISBN 80-246-0793-X.