MR review by trained internal medicine specialists, VA review by trained general practitioners

Standard medical certificate of cause of death

ICD coding of all listed causes by coders

Selection of underlying cause of death by certifying physicians

100% review by central team of expert coders

Underlying cause accepted

Underlying cause / code changed

Final adjudication by study team expert

Agreement ↔ Incorrect ↔ Disagreement

Potential sources of error:
- Incorrect cause(s) of death / disease sequence
- Incorrect code(s)
- Incorrect application of rules for selecting underlying cause

Provincial level

Central level

DECISION

FINAL VERDICT