

Consciously cutting to the bone of SA's surgical/anaesthetic delivery

In the *Izindaba* story entitled 'Consciously cutting to the bone of SA's surgical/anaesthetic delivery' (<http://dx.doi.org/10.7196/SAMJ.2016.v106i2.10526>), which appeared in the February 2016 *SAMJ* (Vol. 106, No. 2, p. 134), Prof. Christina Lundgren, Clinical Head of Anaesthesia at Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital, cited the worldwide anaesthetic mortality rate as being 1%. The South African Society of Anaesthesiologists (SASA) has pointed out that such mortality rates vary widely owing to a number of factors, including the number of anaesthesiologists available, and are therefore dependent on the specific country conditions and too varied to be stated so specifically. SASA states that in South Africa the rate of deaths due to anaesthesia (including both obstetric and non-obstetric) is 1 in 10 000.

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