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## Title: A Call for Action: Patterns of Radioiodine use for Differentiated Thyroid Carcinoma in Brazil

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(Justificative) Radioactive iodine (RAI) has been one of the cornerstones of differentiated thyroid cancer (DTC) treatment. Recent body of evidence in the field has narrowed the recommendations of RAI prescription for DTC due to poor efficacy, rendering its use to specific scenarios. Despite unfavorable evidence, DTC-related RAI prescription continues to be an established practice and question arises to what extent. (Objectives) In this context, this study aimed to explore the patterns of RAI use for DTC in Brazil over the past 20 years. (Methods) Accordingly, a retrospective analysis of the DTC-related RAI prescriptions, from 2000 to 2018, retrieved from the Department of Informatics of the Unified Health System (Datasus) and National Supplementary Health Agency (ANS) database was performed. RAI activities prescriptions were re-classified as low (30-50 mCi), intermediate (100 mCi), or high activities (>100 mCi). (Results) Thus the number of DTC-related RAI prescriptions in Brazil increased from 0.45 to 2.28/100,000 inhabitants from 2000 to 2015, declining onwards, closing 2018 at 1.87/100,000. In 2018, population-adjusted RAI prescriptions ranged from 0.07/100,000 inhabitants in Mato Grosso do Sul to 4.74/100,000 in Rio Grande do Norte. Regarding RAI activities, in the 2000 to 2008 period, the proportion of high-activities among all RAI prescriptions increased from 51.2% to 74.1%. From 2009 onwards, there was a progressive reduction in high-activity prescriptions in the country, closing 2018 at 50.1%. In 2018, the practice of requesting high-activities varied from 16% in Pernambuco to 82% in Goiás. In summary, here we demonstrated that there has been a trend towards the lower prescription of RAI, and a reduction of high-activity RAI prescriptions for DTC in Brazil, in recent years. Also, significant inter-state variability on RAI use was documented.