

Cardiovascular disease is the No. 1 killer in the world.

How CVD affects women in Latin American and pregnant women, in particular, has generated this science-based response.

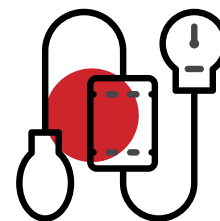


CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE is the **leading cause of death** worldwide. In 2020, about **19.1 million** people died from CVD, accounting for **32%** of global deaths.^{1,2}



LATIN AMERICAN WOMEN have a **higher risk for acute myocardial infarction** than women in the rest of the world.³

In 2019, **2 million** people in the Americas **died from CVD**.⁴



High blood pressure, preeclampsia and gestational diabetes during pregnancy can all **greatly increase women's risk for developing cardiovascular disease** later in life.^{5,6}

REDUCE GAPS IN EQUITY

Women of all ages should take heart disease seriously and pay close attention to CVD risk factors. The evaluation of risk factors in women involves a broad approach, emphasizing early warning and measures to change lifestyles and timely therapeutics.

7 social determinants of health that need to be addressed **so all women receive the care they deserve** during pregnancy and childbirth:



Poverty
(education, work, salary)



Distance to Health Facilities



Lack of Information



Inadequate and Poor-Quality Services



Cultural Beliefs/ Practices and Social Role



Marital Status



Domestic Violence

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND MATERNAL MORTALITY

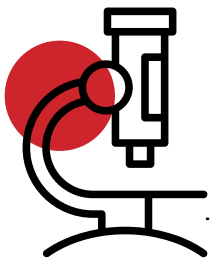
In the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), countries have united behind targets to reduce premature death from non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and cut maternal mortality by 2030.

Target 3.1:
Reduce the global **maternal mortality** ratio to less than **70 per 100,000** live births.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Target 3.4:
By 2030, **reduce pre-mature mortality** from NCDs by one-third through **prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.**⁸

CALL TO ACTION



Increase the representation of women in research in Latin America.

Improve pre-natal care and other essential services for women in Latin America, in keeping with national laws.



Improve primary prevention of cardiovascular disease in Latin American women.

Advance training of health workers to improve management of CVD and maternal health.



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