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# ASSOCIATION BETWEEN MULTIPLE MYELOMA DEATHS AND EDUCATIONAL LEVELS IN BRAZIL

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## INTRODUCTION

There is a complex interaction between individual and community factors that determine the population's health. In cancer patients, the low educational level is related to the high mortality from the disease. The objective of this study is to evaluate the number of deaths from Multiple Myeloma (MM) in Brazil from the perspective of its relationship with the educational levels of the population.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Epidemiological, retrospective, and descriptive research that analyzed data available in the Diseases Information and Notification System (SINAN). SINAN is an official system of the Brazilian government that registers and accounts for deaths and the occurrence of compulsory notification diseases in the country. The deaths caused by MM in Brazil, which occurred between 1996 and 2018 and the educational level of these patients were analyzed. The Chi-Square Test was used to analyze the statistical difference between the nominal variables. A non-systematized search in the scientific literature supported the problematization of the data found and its relationship with the educational level as a determinant in health.

## RESULTS

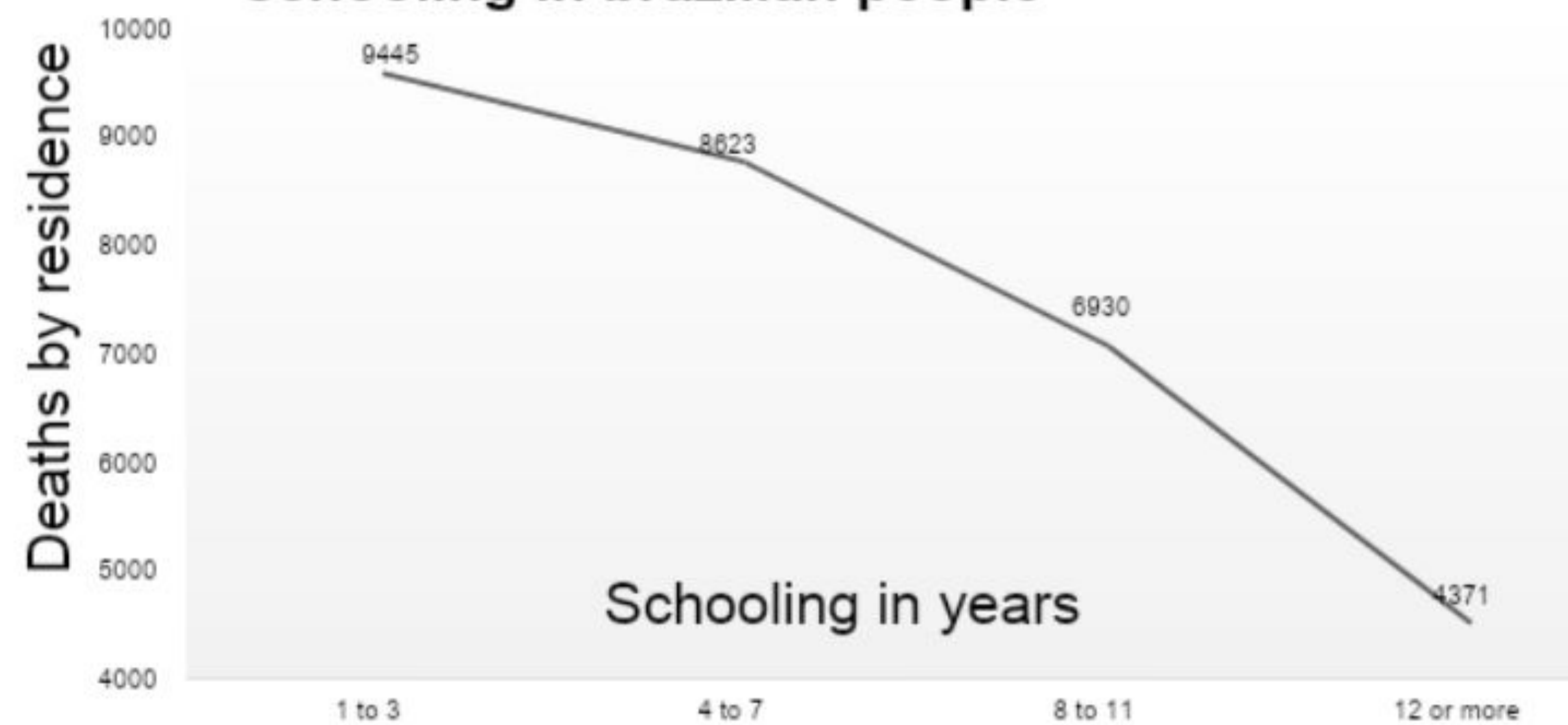
It was found that 63% of deaths registered between 1996 and 2016 by MM in Brazil are of people with less than seven years of schooling (table 1). Of these, 52% are people with less than three years of schooling. Only 15% of people who died from MM had 12 years of schooling or more.

**Table 1** - Deaths by residence according to schooling from 1996 to 2018

SCHOOLING	DEATHS BY RESIDENCE
1 to 3 years	9445
4 to 7 years	8623
8 to 11 years	6930
12 years and more	4371
TOTAL	28369

Source: own authorship (Data: DATASUS/TABNET 2020)

**Graphic 1** - Deaths by residence according to schooling in Brazilian people



Source: own authorship (Data: DATASUS/TABNET 2020)

## CONCLUSION

The lower educational level is related to the increase in mortality from MM (graphic 1). It is suggested that greater education impacts the early recognition of symptoms and the search for medical assistance, as well as patient understanding and adherence to treatment. Thus, the natural course of the disease is positively impacted. This variable is probably defined as a determinant of mortality from MM.

## REFERENCES

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