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<b>Título</b>	Thyroidectomy Volume by Institutions in Brazil: a Datasus-based Overview and Future Challenges
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## Title: **Thyroidectomy Volume by Institutions in Brazil: a Datasus-based Overview and Future Challenges**

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**(Justificative)** The institutional case volume of thyroidectomies impacts surgical and operational outcomes. The annual volume of thyroidectomies performed by each institution in Brazil has not been studied. **(Objectives)** We aimed to analyze the number of thyroidectomies per institution in Brazil for the year of 2019. **(Methodology)** A retrospective analysis of thyroidectomies and institutions performing these surgeries was made based on data from the Datasus (Departamento de informática do Sistema Único de Saúde do Brasil) for 2019, concerning Brazil and its states. Institutions were then stratified according to the surgical volume into three categories: low (<10 thyroidectomies/year), intermediate (10-100 thyroidectomies/year), and high-volume (>100 thyroidectomies/year). **(Results)** In Datasus, we identified that 556 institutions performed 15,331 thyroidectomies in 2019. According to surgical volume, we found 258 (46.4%) low, 269 (48.4%) intermediate and 29 (5.2%) high-volume institutions. In the same year, 848 (5.5%) thyroidectomies were performed in low-volume institutions, 9,404 (61.4%) in intermediate-volume institutions, and 5,079 (33.1%), in high-volume institutions. The proportion of thyroidectomies performed in high-volume institutions among all states in 2019 displays a median of 28.5% (P25-P75 0.0%-43.5%). In summary, here we demonstrated that almost two-thirds of the thyroidectomies in the public health system were performed outside high-volume institutions in 2019 with a wide interstate variability, a finding that may potentially drive poorer surgical outcomes. These findings are preliminary and merit more in-depth studies to address surgical indications and outcomes by institutions in Brazil.