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Título	Increase in COVID-19 underreporting among 3,282,337 Brazilian hospitalized patients due to SARS: A 3-year report and a major concern for health authorities
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Resumo	We included a total of 3,282,337 hospitalized patients from an initial sample of 3,551,556 hospitalized patients due to severe acute respiratory infection. From those included patients, we grouped the individuals into two study populations: 1,102,934 individuals (33.6%) – possible COVID-19 underreporting; and 2,180,404 individuals (66.4%) – confirmed COVID-19 cases. We observed the highest number of cases for possible COVID-19 underreporting during the 2020 year (425,389 individuals); and for confirmed COVID-19 cases during the 2021 year (1,245,711 cases). The highest percentage of individuals classified as possible COVID-19 underreporting occurred during the 2023 year (62.9% vs. 37.1%; OR=5.298 [95%CI=5.198 to 5.400]) followed by the 2022 year (50.4% vs. 49.6%; OR=3.171 [95%CI=3.150 to 3.192]), and 2020 year (38.7% vs. 61.3%; OR=1.972 [95%CI=1.962 to 1.982]). In addition, the lowest percentage of possible COVID-19 underreporting individuals occurred in the 2021 year (24.3% vs. 75.7%) when we have the highest number of hospitalized COVID-19 cases in Brazil. COVID-19 cases might have been underreported throughout the whole pandemic, mainly now, which perhaps hampered several public policy actions and management of inputs, which could have alleviated, at least in part, the burden of the pandemic in Brazil.
Fomento	