Maternal mortality (MM) is a major public health problem in the developing countries. The 5th Goal of the Millennium for the Development of the United Nations was to achieve the goal of reducing the maternal mortality of 75 % between 1990 and 2015. In order to assess the maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) and to estimate the advance towards the fulfillment of this objective, a national survey on the maternal mortality was conducted in Tunisia on 2010.

Method
A national Reproductive Age Mortality Survey (RAMOS), was conducted on 2010. All the deaths of women aged 15 to 49 years were investigated through a verbal autopsy and a structured questionnaire. 1800 deaths were investigated.

Data entry was performed by using EpiData. The analysis was conducted in planned, socioeconomic scores

Results
MMR was 44.8 per 100,000 live births. Mean age of the dead women was 33,2 years.
51,9 % of the deaths occurred in post-partum, mostly within first 24 hours. This evidence enhances the problem of the quality of supervision in post-partum and underline the human and material inadequacies in intensive care.

Hemorrhage remained, the main cause of MM: 31,7 %. The means of transfusion were considered insufficient for 15 % of the deaths.
Among the recorded maternal deaths, 70,9 % were considered avoidable. This involved an insufficiency of the system of care in 76,8 % of the cases. So, the quality of the care stays at the heart of the problem of the MM in Tunisia.

Conclusion: To achieve substantial reduction in MMR work must be done on these specific risk factors, and future programs must urgently be concentrated on a higher standard of prenatal control, obstetrical emergency facilities and training of obstetrical staff.