

1 Search Terms

Table 1: Search Terms used in Medline and Embase databases

#	Terms
1	exp neoplasm/
2	exp RADIATION ONCOLOGY/ or exp MEDICAL ONCOLOGY/ or exp PSYCHO-ONCOLOGY/ or exp SURGICAL ONCOLOGY/
3	tumo?r.mp.
4	cancer.mp.
5	exp pancreas cancer/ or exp female genital tract cancer/ or exp central nervous system cancer/ or exp nasopharynx cancer/ or exp hypopharynx cancer/ or exp cancer antibody/ or exp ovarian cancer cell line/ or exp breast cancer resistance protein/ or exp cancer palliative therapy/ or exp cancer size/ or exp endometrial cancer cell line/ or exp cancer diagnosis/ or exp "HCC cell line (colorectal cancer)" / or exp cancer staging/ or exp cancer cell/ or exp lung cancer/ or exp experimental pancreatic cancer/ or exp vulva cancer/ or exp uterine cervix cancer/ or exp cancer graft/ or exp cancer immunology/ or exp brain cancer cell line/ or exp colorectal cancer cell line/ or exp germ cell cancer/ or exp larynx cancer/ or exp cancer therapy/ or exp cancer genetics/ or exp skin cancer/ or exp mouth cancer/ or exp cancer statistics/ or exp breast cancer-related lymphedema/ or exp disseminated cancer/ or exp second cancer/ or exp cancer surgery/ or exp childhood cancer/ or exp human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 positive breast cancer/ or exp colon cancer cell line/ or exp esophageal cancer cell line/ or exp cancer survivor/ or exp cancer transplantation/ or exp small cell lung cancer/ or exp pelvis cancer/ or exp cancer adjuvant therapy/ or exp advanced cancer/ or exp lung cancer cell line/ or exp early cancer/ or exp urogenital tract cancer/ or exp rectum cancer/ or exp breast cancer molecular subtype/ or exp metastatic colon cancer/ or exp castration resistant prostate cancer/ or exp triple negative breast cancer/ or exp cancer recurrence/ or exp cancer chemotherapy/ or exp small intestine cancer/ or exp oropharynx cancer/ or exp Institute for Cancer Research mouse/ or exp poorly differentiated thyroid cancer/ or exp non muscle invasive bladder cancer/ or exp differentiated thyroid cancer/ or exp abdominal cancer/ or exp cancer center/ or exp "head and neck cancer" / or exp ovary cancer/ or exp cancer prognosis/ or exp blood cancer cell line/ or exp "hereditary breast and ovarian cancer syndrome" / or exp cancer incidence/ or exp cancer pain/ or exp muscle invasive bladder cancer/ or exp biliary tract cancer/ or exp cancer growth factor/ or exp cancer susceptibility/ or exp cancer cell culture/ or exp bladder cancer cell line/ or exp digestive system cancer/

Table 1: Search Terms (continued)

#	Terms
5	or exp cancer control/ or exp nervous system cancer/ or exp hereditary colorectal cancer/ or exp cervical cancer cell line/ or exp childhood cancer survivor/ or exp cancer survival/ or exp liver cancer cell line/ or exp multimodality cancer therapy/ or exp gastric cancer cell line/ or exp inflammatory breast cancer/ or exp brain cancer/ or exp metastatic colorectal cancer/ or cancer*.mp. or exp testis cancer/ or exp gallbladder cancer/ or exp liver cancer/ or exp cancer radiotherapy/ or exp esophagus cancer/ or exp colorectal cancer/ or exp prostate cancer/ or exp uterus cancer/ or exp occult cancer/ or exp cancer registry/ or exp cancer localization/ or exp cancer testis antigen/ or exp heart cancer/ or exp cancer mortality/ or exp breast cancer/ or exp cancer resistance/ or exp cancer specific survival/ or exp cancer tissue/ or exp cancer patient/ or exp cancer associated fibroblast/ or exp cancer screening/ or exp cecum cancer/ or exp cancer vaccine/ or exp adrenal cancer/ or exp respiratory tract cancer/ or exp multiple cancer/ or exp estrogen receptor positive breast cancer/ or exp tongue cancer/ or exp stomach cancer/ or exp cancer grading/ or exp hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer/ or exp pancreatic cancer cell line/ or exp cancer classification/ or exp non melanoma skin cancer/ or exp cancer fatigue/ or exp prostate cancer cell line/ or exp early cancer diagnosis/ or exp colon cancer/ or exp cancer model/ or exp cancer stem cell/ or exp vagina cancer/ or exp penis cancer/ or exp cancer risk/ or exp non small cell lung cancer/ or exp thyroid cancer/ or exp cancer cell line/ or exp "cancer of unknown primary site"/ or exp cancer prevention/ or exp breast cancer cell line/ or exp kidney cancer/ or exp bladder cancer/ or exp endometrium cancer/ or exp anus cancer/ or exp cancer immunotherapy/ or exp "HCC cell line (cervical cancer)"/ or exp bone marrow cancer/ or exp cancer research/ or exp metastatic breast cancer/ or exp urinary tract cancer/ or exp cancer inhibition/ or exp basal like breast cancer/ or exp cancer immunization/ or exp progesterone receptor positive breast cancer/
6	1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5
7	missing data.mp.
8	drop out.mp.
9	non-response.mp.
10	incomplete data.mp.
11	exclude* data.mp.
12	7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11

Table 1: Search Terms (continued)

#	Terms
13	6 and 12
14	exp survival analysis/
15	hazard ratio.mp.
16	time-to-event analysis.mp.
17	cox model.mp. or Proportional Hazards Models/
18	time-dependent.mp.
19	time varying.mp.
20	relative ratio.mp.
21	14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20
22	13 and 21
23	22 and 2012:2018.(sa_year).

2 Data extraction checklist

Table 2: Checklist for data extraction

Heading	Checklist	More detail
Journal		
Year		
First Author		
Analysis	Models used Complexity of analysis model Functional form PH assumption	• Kaplan-Meier • Log rank test • Cox model • Exponential • Weibull • Univariable • Multivariable • Checked? • If yes, Martingale residuals? • Other method? • Checked? • Schoenfeld Residuals • KM or log-log plots • Interaction with time • If other, specify • If checked, was there an attempt to handle missing data other than a CC analysis?

PH= proportional hazards

Table 2: Checklist for data extraction (continued)

Heading	Checklist	More detail
Analysis	Covariate selection	• Explicitly stated? • A priori involved? • Univariable model with $p < \alpha$ • Chi-square • T-test • Fishers exact test • Likelihood ratio test • Forward selection • Backward selection • Other, specify
Missing data	Outside of CC analysis, was extent of missing specified Assumptions stated? Methods to handle missing data	• in text • in table • shown in a plot • If yes, which one? • If no, presumably which one? • Were methods declared in full text or supplementary material? • Initial size of sample (before excluding due to missing data or other criteria) • After applying exclusion criteria not relating to missing data, was it unclear whether there were any missing covariate data?

Table 2: Checklist for data extraction (continued)

Heading	Checklist	More detail
Missing data	Methods to handle missing data	• Out of the initial sample size, how many subjects were excluded in an initial phase (prior to any descriptive statistics or analysis) because they had missing data on one or more covariates? • Out of the initial sample size, how many subjects were excluded in an initial phase (prior to any descriptive statistics or analysis) due to other exclusion criteria? • Did the reporting make it possible to ascertain the numbers excluded due to missing data or due to other exclusion criteria? • If the reporting did not make it possible to ascertain the numbers excluded due to missing data or due to other exclusion criteria, what was the total number excluded in the initial phase for any reason? • Of which, was it possible to determine at least some of the exclusion was due to missing data? • If yes, how many were confirmed to be excluded due to missing data? • Final sample size after all exclusion criteria applied to be used for analysis?

Table 2: Checklist for data extraction (continued)

Heading	Checklist	More detail
Missing data	Methods to handle missing data	• If excluded missing data, what would sample size for analysis have been if missing data had been kept? • After exclusions in an initial phase due to either missing data and/or other criteria, are there missing values in any additional study covariates? • If missing data still present in analysis sample, were covariates containing Nas used in model? • Did initial phase include removing those with incomplete data in some covariates? • Did initial phase include a CC analysis? • Was complete-case analysis used during or post initial phase? • Stated no. of people with complete records? • If no, could no. of complete records be worked out from information in paper? • Removed covariates from analysis due to large amount of missing data? • If removed, are they thought to be highly predictive?

Table 2: Checklist for data extraction (continued)

Heading	Checklist	More detail
Missing data	Methods to handle missing data	• Included a missing indicator in model? • Minimum value imputation • Maximum value imputation • Mean value imputation • Mode value imputation • LOCF • Was MI used? • If yes, uni or multi? • Specify if Joint MVN, FCS etc. • If yes, included time, log time, event indicator or Nelson-Aalen estimate? • If yes, specify no. of imputations? • Was a sensitivity analysis used? • Were there any Time-dependent covariates or time-varying effects with missing data?
Software used		State whether SAS, SPSS, Stata, R, S-plus or Mplus

3 Papers included in the review

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