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Statistical modelling of competing risks with incomplete data: with applications to allogeneic stem cell transplantation

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Statistical modelling of competing risks with incomplete data

With applications to allogeneic stem cell transplantation

1. Extensive guidelines concerning the reporting and handling of missing values already exist, and are clearly not being adhered to. (this thesis)
2. While using a Fine–Gray model for one cause only may still be defensible, it goes against a holistic approach to competing risks analyses where all causes should ideally be studied together. (this thesis)
3. One should predominantly be imputing compatibly with substantive models one has at least some degree of belief in. (this thesis)
4. Failing to account for competing risks at the imputation stage usually translates to erroneously assuming that your imputation model can safely ignore the censoring process. (this thesis)
5. The purpose of all this laborious buzzing is to remind us that in the presence of competing risks, the question ‘What is the probability of developing a particular disease?’ is not an unambiguous one. (Cornfield, *Am J Public Health Nations Health*, 1957)
6. Generating an appropriate number of good quality imputations requires substantial effort by the imputer, but the resulting statistical inferences can have a potentially profound impact on our society. (Meng, *Stat Sci*, 1994)
7. Interactivity, unless thoughtfully designed, does not add much over large collections of difficult-to-navigate tables or graphs. Finding the needle in a haystack does not become easier by adding more hay. (Vandemeulebroecke et al., *Trials*, 2023)
8. A pragmatic balance between biologically plausible associations and a parsimonious model should guide the specification of association structure in competing risks joint models. (Hickey et al., *J R Stat Soc A*, 2018)
9. Science will never be considered open without the systematic sharing of analysis code.
10. Humans will continue to embrace the technologies that quietly erode their intellectual autonomy.