

## APPLICAZIONE DELL'IMPUTAZIONE DEI DATI MANCANTI NELLE ANALISI DI SOPRAVVIVENZA SUI DATI DEI REGISTRI TUMORI ITALIANI

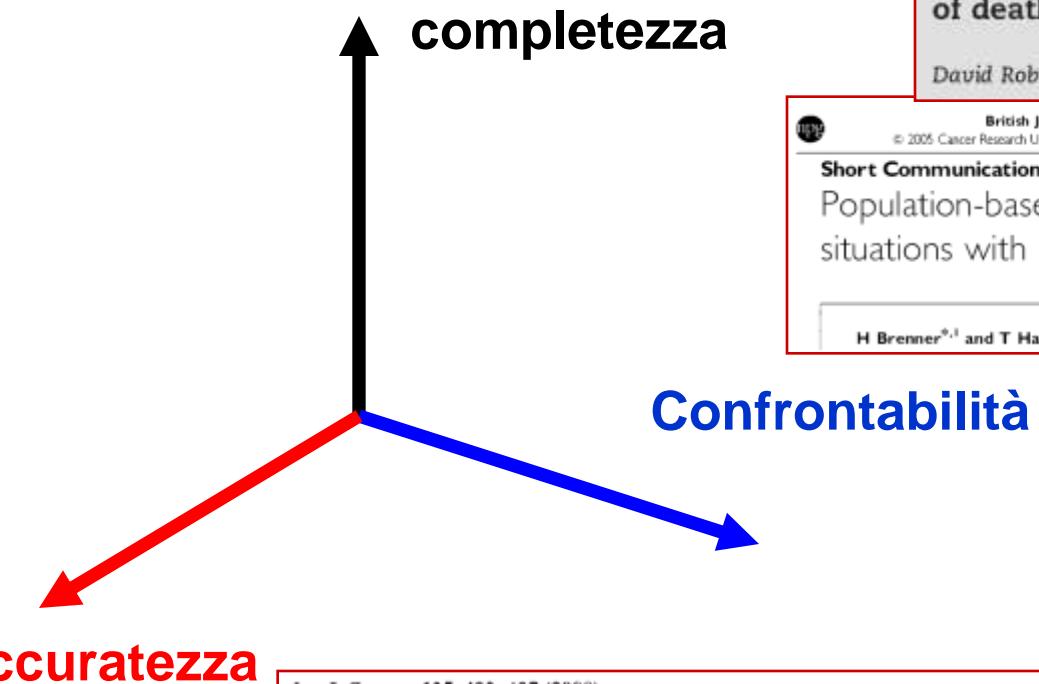
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7 RT Napoli,  
8 RT Biella,  
9 RT Como,  
10 RT Siracusa,

11 RT Alto Adige,  
12 RT Parma,  
13 RT Latina,  
14 RT Fiuli Venezia Giulia,  
15 RT Sondrio,  
16 RT Palermo mammella,  
17 RT Ragusa,  
18 RT Genova,  
19 RT Veneto,  
20 [www.registri-tumori.it](http://www.registri-tumori.it)

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research

# Introduzione: Registri Tumori e qualità dei dati



EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF CANCER 43 (2007) 909–913

Interpreting international comparisons of cancer survival:  
The effects of incomplete registration and the presence  
of death certificate only cases on survival estimates

David Robinson<sup>a,\*</sup>, Risto Sankila<sup>b</sup>, Timo Hakulinen<sup>b</sup>, Henrik Møller<sup>a</sup>



British Journal of Cancer (2005) 92, 576–579  
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#### Short Communication

Population-based monitoring of cancer patient survival in situations with imperfect completeness of cancer registration

H Brenner<sup>a,1</sup> and T Hakulinen<sup>b</sup>

Accuratezza



tempestività

Int. J. Cancer: 125, 432–437 (2009)

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Implications of incomplete registration of deaths on long-term survival estimates from population-based cancer registries

Hermann Brenner<sup>1,a</sup> and Timo Hakulinen<sup>2</sup>

British Journal of Cancer (2011) 105, 170–176  
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Completeness of case ascertainment and survival time error in English cancer registries: impact on 1-year survival estimates

H Møller<sup>a,1</sup>, S Richards<sup>1</sup>, N Hanchett<sup>1</sup>, SP Riaz<sup>1</sup>, M Lüchtenborg<sup>1</sup>, L Holmberg<sup>2</sup> and D Robinson<sup>1</sup>

# Introduzione: Registri Tumori e sopravvivenza

Editorials represent the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the BMJ or BMA

For the full versions of these articles see [bmj.com](http://bmj.com)

## EDITORIALS

### UK cancer survival statistics

Are misleading and make survival look worse than it is

RESEARCH, p 335

**Valerie Beral** professor of epidemiology, Cancer Epidemiology Unit, University of Oxford, Oxford OX3 7LF  
pvalerie.beral@cege.ox.ac.uk

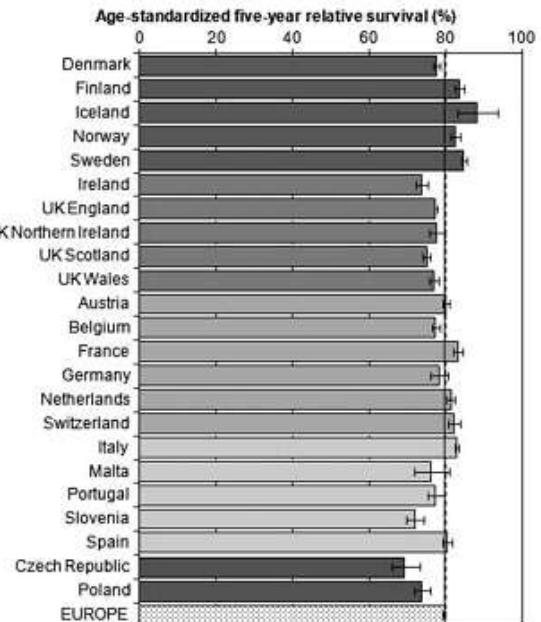
**Richard Peto** professor of medical statistics and epidemiology, Clinical Trial Service Unit and Epidemiological Studies Unit (CTSU), University of Oxford, Oxford OX3 7LF

In the linked article, Autier and colleagues report that (population based) breast cancer mortality rates have fallen over the past two decades in many European countries, with a greater decline in the United Kingdom than in any other large country.<sup>1</sup> That the UK is leading Europe in the speed with which national breast cancer mortality rates are falling is in stark contrast to, and at first sight difficult to reconcile with, claims that survival after breast cancer onset is worse in the UK than elsewhere in western Europe.<sup>2</sup>

The unpromising UK cancer survival estimates are, how-

vival calculations based on registry data make UK cancer survival rates seem significantly worse than they really are.

Information in cancer registries on deaths from cancer is virtually complete because every death certificate that mentions cancer is automatically sent to one of the regional registries that, between them, cover the UK. That cancer is then registered, and further information is sought (not always successfully) from medical records. Death certificates have for decades played an important role in the way UK registries identify people with cancer. Without this source of informa-



# BMJ

## RESEARCH

### Evidence against the proposition that "UK cancer survival statistics are misleading": simulation study with National Cancer Registry data

Laura M Woods, lecturer in cancer epidemiology,<sup>1</sup> Michel P Coleman, professor of epidemiology and vital statistics,<sup>1</sup> Gill Lawrence, director,<sup>2</sup> Jem Rashbass, director,<sup>3</sup> Franco Berrino, director,<sup>4</sup> Bernard Rachet, senior

Coleman MP, Rachet B, Woods L, Berrino F, Butler J, Capocaccia R, Dickman P, Gavin A, Giorgi R, Hamilton W, et al. BMJ. 2011. Rebuttal to editorial saying cancer survival statistics are misleading.

- UK cancer survival statistics. Survival is multifactorial. BMJ. 2010
- UK cancer survival statistics. Survival is multifactorial. Brewster DH, Black RJ. BMJ. 2010
- UK cancer survival statistics. Reflect NHS clinical realities. BMJ. 2010



# Introduzione

Lo stadio alla diagnosi è un **forte predittore** della sopravvivenza per

valutare l'effetto dei dati mancanti relativi alla definizione dello stadio patologico sulle stime di sopravvivenza di pazienti affette da tumore della mammella presenti nella Banca Dati AIRTUM e valutare l'impatto sulla stima di sopravvivenza dell'imputazione dei dati mancanti mediante il metodo delle imputazioni multiple

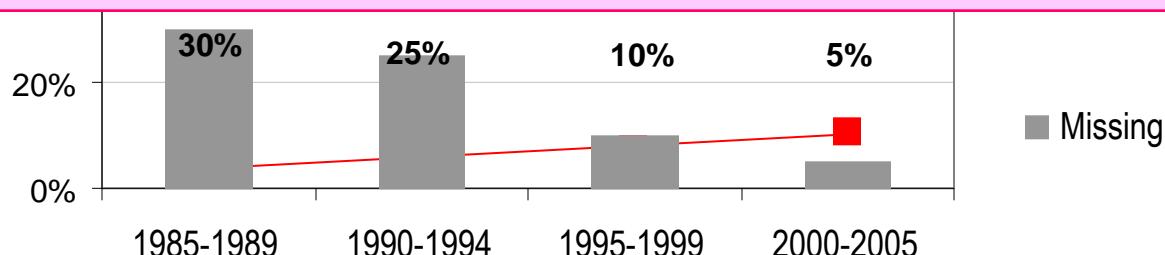
# Background: Completezza e accuratezza



Registro Tumori regione Toscana: sopravvivenza relativa a 5 anni



**La validità delle stime dipende dal meccanismo che ha generato la presenza dei dati mancanti**



# Definizioni (Rubin)



## Missing Completely At Random (MCAR)

P(  $x = \text{missing}$  )

Non dipende dal valore ignoto

Non dipende dai valori osservati nelle altre variabili

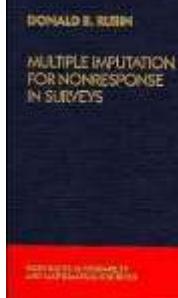
**Stime non distorte perdita di efficienza (errori standard ↑)**

HOSPITAL	PATIENT-ID	MORPHOLOGICAL-CODE
001	1	8000. 3
001	2	8140. 3
<b>BUG</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>BUGX. X</b>
002	4	8000. 2
<b>BUG</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>BUGX. X</b>
003	6	8000. 3
003	7	8200. 3
<b>BUG</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>BUGX. X</b>



Analisi di sopravvivenza  
Esclusione dei casi con valori mancanti  
Stime non distorte, perdita di potenza

006	15	8000. 2
007	16	8140. 3
008	17	8000. 3
<b>BUG</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>BUGX. X</b>
009	19	8500. 3
009	19	8500. 3



# Definizioni (Rubin)



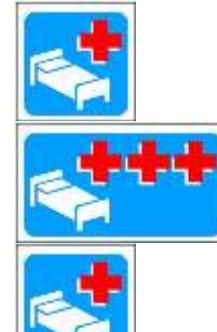
## Missing At Random (MAR)

P(  $x = \text{missing}$  )

Non dipende dal valore ignoto  
condizionatamente ai valori osservati nelle altre variabili.

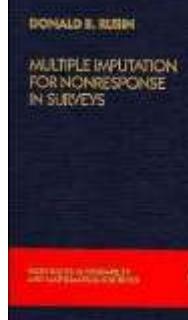
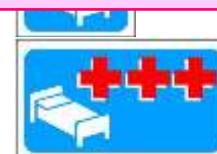
### Includere la variabile nel modello

HOSPITAL	PATIENT-ID	MORPHOLOGICAL-CODE
001	1	8000. 3
001	2	8140. 3
BUG	X	BUGX. X
RIIG	X	RIIGX X
RIIG	X	RIIGX X
BUG	X	BUGX. X
003	7	8200. 3
004	8	8000. 2



Analisi di sopravvivenza stratificate per ospedale  
Esclusione dei casi con valori mancanti  
Stime non distorte, perdita di potenza

006	15	8000. 2
007	16	8140. 3
008	17	8000. 3
009	18	8200. 3
009	19	8500. 3
009	19	8500. 3



# Definizioni (Rubin)



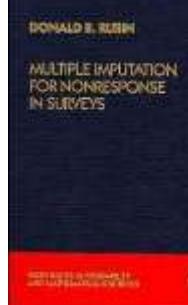
## Missing Not At Random (MNAR)

P(  $x = \text{missing}$  )

dipende dal valore ignoto

condizionatamente ai valori osservati nelle altre variabili.

HOSPITAL	PATIENT-ID	MORPHOLOGICAL-CODE
001	1	8000.3
001	2	8140.3
002	3	8500.3
<b>BUG</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>BUGX. X</b>
003	5	8140.3
003	6	8000.3
003	7	8200.3
<b>BUG</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>BUGX. X</b>
004	9	8140.3
004	10	8000.3
004	11	8200.3
005	12	8500.3
005	13	8000.3
005	14	8200.3
006	15	8000.3
<b>BUG</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>BUGX. X</b>
007	16	8140.3
008	17	8000.3
009	18	8200.3
009	19	8500.3
009	19	8500.3



# Metodi ad-hoc: imputazioni multiple



✓ Data-set originale

id	failure	time	stage
1	0	12	early
2	1	7	early
3	1	9	??
4	0	12	advanced
...			
999	1	9	??

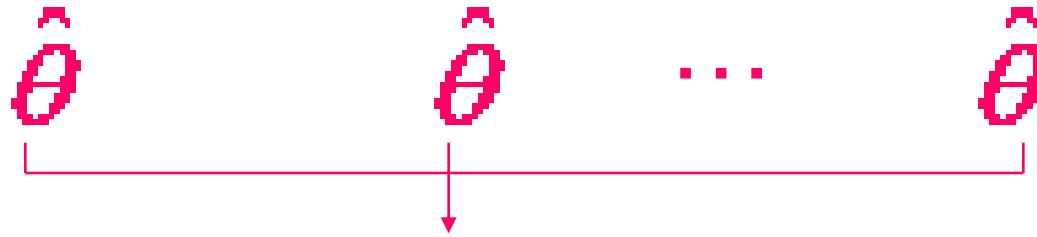
✓ M data-set 'completi'

id	failure	time	stage
1	0	12	early
2	1	7	early
3	1	9	early
4	0	12	advanced
...			
999	1	9	advanced

id	failure	time	stage
1	0	12	early
2	1	7	early
3	1	9	advanced
4	0	12	advanced
...			
999	1	9	advanced

id	failure	time	stage
1	0	12	early
2	1	7	early
3	1	9	advanced
4	0	12	early
...			
999	1	9	advanced

✓ Stima dei parametri di interesse



Pool estimate

# Metodi ad-hoc per il trattamento dei dati mancanti



Combinazione di

- ✓ Stime puntuali

$$\hat{\theta} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m \hat{\theta}_j$$

- ✓ Errori standard

$$\text{var}(\hat{\theta}) = \text{var}_{\text{within}}(\hat{\theta}) + \left( \frac{m+1}{m} \right) \text{var}_{\text{between}}(\hat{\theta})$$

$$\text{var}_{\text{within}}(\hat{\theta}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m W_j$$

$$\text{var}_{\text{between}}(\hat{\theta}) = \left( \frac{1}{m-1} \right) \sum_{j=1}^m (\hat{\theta}_j - \hat{\theta})^2$$



# Materiali e metodi

DATA:

- ✓ 18 Registri Tumori (6.5 milioni di donne, 22% della popolazione femminile italiana) con informazione sullo stadio alla diagnosi disponibile nella Banca Dati AIRTUM.
- ✓ Più di 100.000 della mammella femminile diagnosticati tra il 1978 e il 2006.
- ✓ Tumori invasivi (ICD-10 C50.\*). Follow-up aggiornato al 31.12.2009.
- ✓ classificazione TNM (AJCC, 2003), categorie I, IIA, IIB IIIA, IIIB, IIIC, IVB

# Materiali e metodi

Geographic area and Cancer Registries, number and percentage	period					Total
	<1990	1990-94	1995-99	2000-04	2005-06	
AIRTUM pool	I	530 (10%)	3463 (28%)	9612 (31%)	16771 (36%)	6816 (38%) 37192 (33%)
	IIA	718 (13%)	2581 (21%)	6229 (20%)	9757 (21%)	3347 (19%) 22632 (20%)
	IIB	495 (9%)	1404 (11%)	2898 (9%)	4630 (10%)	1423 (8%) 10850 (10%)
	IIIA	179 (3%)	386 (3%)	1236 (4%)	2404 (5%)	1143 (6%) 5348 (5%)
	IIIB	254 (5%)	585 (5%)	1400 (4%)	1754 (4%)	428 (2%) 4421 (4%)
	IIIC	64 (1%)	117 (1%)	224 (1%)	806 (2%)	616 (3%) 1827 (2%)
	IVB	101 (2%)	249 (2%)	912 (3%)	1733 (4%)	671 (4%) 3666 (3%)
	missing	3044 (57%)	3655 (29%)	8768 (28%)	9304 (20%)	3282 (19%) 28053 (25%)
	Total	5385 (100%)	12440 (100%)	31279 (100%)	47159 (100%)	17726 (100%) 113989 (100%)

# Materiali e metodi

## ANALISI STATISTICHE

Sopravvivenza relativa a 5 anni. Stima degli excess hazard ratio (EHR) utilizzando i modelli con spline proposti da Royston (Royston, 2001).

Le analisi di sopravvivenza sono state condotte per ogni area geografica.

Variabili esplicative:

- tempo di follow-up [<6 mesi (ref.), 6-11, 12-23, 24-35, 36-4, 48-59 mesi];
- periodo di diagnosi [1995-99 (ref), 2000-04, 2005-06];
- età alla diagnosi[<50 anni (ref.), 50-59, 60-69, 70+ anni];
- gruppo morfologico [Duttale (ref.), Lobulare, Misto (duttale/lobulare), Altri e non spec.];
- registro tumori
- stadio alla diagnosi [I (ref.), IIA, IIB, IIIA, IIIB, IIIC, IVB]
- grading.

stadio alla diagnosi e grading -> valori mancanti

- **complete case analysis**
- **missing category method**
- **multiple imputation**

# Materiali e metodi

## ANALISI STATISTICHE: procedura di imputazione

do m times

do iteratively until the estimates are stable

Missing value in each variable are substituted with observed value  
(random draw)

do for each variable with missing value

- ✓ Temporarily set aside the value entered
- ✓ Specify the regression model  $x_1 = \beta^* \{x_2, \dots, x_k\}^T$
- ✓ Draw  $\theta^*$  from the posterior distribution of the regression coefficients
- ✓ Predict  $x_1$  using  $\beta^* \{x_2, \dots, x_k\}^T$

end

$$f(Y_{\text{miss}} | Y_{\text{obs}}) = \int_{\Theta} f(Y_{\text{miss}} | Y_{\text{obs}}, \theta) f(\theta | Y_{\text{obs}}) d\theta$$

end

**Missing Stadio**

**Missing Grading**



# Risultati

Var.		complete case analysis			missing category method			multiple imputation		
		EHR	Err. Std.	[95% CI]	EHR	Err. Std.	[95% CI]	EHR	Err. Std.	[95% CI]
Period of diagnosis	<1990 (ref)	1.0			1.0			1.0		
	1990-94	0.95	0.08	0.81 - 1.12	0.95	0.08	0.79 - 1.13	1.07	0.26	0.68 - 1.71
	1995-99	0.81	0.05	0.71 - 0.92	0.84	0.06	0.73 - 0.95	0.62	0.11	0.44 - 0.88
	2000-04	0.68	0.06	0.57 - 0.80	0.77	0.06	0.66 - 0.89	0.42	0.08	0.29 - 0.61
	2005+	0.56	0.06	0.46 - 0.69	0.66	0.05	0.56 - 0.77	0.26	0.03	0.20 - 0.34
Age groups	<50 years	1.00			1.00			1.00		
	50-59 years	1.08	0.05	0.98 - 1.20	1.13	0.04	1.05 - 1.22	1.13	0.05	1.03 - 1.23
	60-69 years	1.11	0.06	1.00 - 1.23	1.25	0.06	1.15 - 1.37	1.33	0.06	1.21 - 1.46
	70+ years	1.36	0.06	1.25 - 1.48	1.72	0.08	1.56 - 1.88	1.86	0.06	1.74 - 1.99
Var.		complete case analysis			missing category method			multiple imputation		
		EHR	Err. Std.	[95% CI]	EHR	Err. Std.	[95% CI]	EHR	Err. Std.	[95% CI]
Age groups	<50 years	1.00			1.00			1.00		
	50-59 years	1.08	0.05	0.98 - 1.20	1.13	0.04	1.05 - 1.22	1.13	0.05	1.03 - 1.23
	60-69 years	1.11	0.06	1.00 - 1.23	1.25	0.06	1.15 - 1.37	1.33	0.06	1.21 - 1.46
	70+ years	1.36	0.06	1.25 - 1.48	1.72	0.08	1.56 - 1.88	1.86	0.06	1.74 - 1.99
Stage at diagnosis	IIIA	16.45	1.72	13.40 - 20.19	17.51	1.99	14.01 - 21.89	6.50	1.01	4.81 - 8.78
	IIIB	20.36	2.25	16.40 - 25.28	20.70	2.38	16.53 - 25.93	8.30	1.08	6.44 - 10.69
	IIIC	26.92	2.65	22.20 - 32.65	27.91	3.16	22.36 - 34.84	10.67	2.47	6.87 - 16.57
	IV	94.23	10.50	75.74 - 117.23	86.84	10.36	68.73 - 109.73	21.49	4.15	14.84 - 31.12
	missing				15.23	1.60	12.39 - 18.71			
Grading	I(ref.)	1.00			1.00			1.00		
	II	2.73	0.28	2.23 - 3.33	2.63	0.22	2.23 - 3.10	1.27	0.11	1.08 - 1.50
	III	5.47	0.68	4.29 - 6.99	5.46	0.45	4.64 - 6.42	1.79	0.16	1.50 - 2.13
	IV				4.33	0.35	3.69 - 5.08			

AIRTUM-pool and geographic areas. Five-years relative survival, Excess-hazard ratio for stage (reference stage = 1), adjusted by follow-up time, period of diagnosis, age group, cancer registry on (a) the cases with complete information for stage variable, (b) all cases, considering missing in stage variable as a valid category - missing category method, (c) on all cases, after applying multiple imputation

# Risultati

Var.	complete case analysis				missing category method				multiple imputation				
	EHR	Err. Std.	[95% CI]		EHR	Err. Std.	[95% CI]		EHR	Err. Std.	[95% CI]		
North-east	I (ref.)	1.00			1.00				1.00				
	IIA	4.56	0.50	3.68	5.66	4.79	0.55	3.82	6.01	2.11	0.11	1.91	2.32
	IIIB	9.98	1.09	8.05	12.37	10.36	1.19	8.27	12.98	3.14	0.18	2.81	3.50
	IIIA	16.76	1.84	13.51	20.80	17.23	1.98	13.75	21.59	3.72	0.21	3.33	4.15
	IIIB	21.83	2.44	17.53	27.19	22.09	2.58	17.58	27.77	4.91	0.29	4.38	5.52
	IIIC	28.44	3.26	22.72	35.59	28.85	3.44	22.83	36.44	5.59	0.45	4.77	6.55
	IV	115.44	11.98	94.19	141.48	105.37	11.48	85.11	130.46	9.98	0.64	8.81	11.30
	missing					16.03	1.74	12.96	19.84				
North-west	I (ref.)	1.00			1.00				1.00				
	IIA	5.15	0.91	3.64	7.28	5.86	1.17	3.96	8.68	3.12	0.33	2.54	3.82
	IIIB	12.30	2.13	8.75	17.27	14.23	2.80	9.68	20.92	6.53	0.67	5.34	7.97
	IIIA	20.48	3.63	14.46	28.99	23.11	4.63	15.61	34.22	11.31	1.17	9.24	13.84
	IIIB	25.94	4.53	18.42	36.54	28.59	5.64	19.43	42.09	12.32	1.29	10.04	15.12
	IIIC	39.19	7.87	26.44	58.10	38.95	8.53	25.36	59.83	21.26	2.58	16.79	26.91
	IV	99.39	17.30	70.66	139.79	97.04	19.01	66.09	142.47	34.20	3.42	28.15	41.56
	missing					21.63	4.16	14.84	31.54				
Centre	I (ref.)	1.00			1.00				1.00				
	IIA	3.40	0.53	2.50	4.61	3.71	0.62	2.67	5.16	2.13	0.22	1.73	2.61
	IIIB	9.26	1.38	6.92	12.40	10.21	1.64	7.45	13.99	3.65	0.38	2.98	4.47
	IIIA	19.76	3.10	14.53	26.87	20.94	3.52	15.07	29.11	6.15	0.78	4.80	7.87
	IIIB	12.65	2.09	9.16	17.47	13.70	2.39	9.73	19.30	5.78	0.71	4.55	7.34
	IIIC	30.40	5.93	20.73	44.57	29.09	5.87	19.59	43.20	10.05	1.77	7.16	14.09
	IV	89.33	13.56	66.35	120.27	70.69	11.38	51.57	96.91	18.02	2.29	14.08	23.07
	missing					11.43	1.76	8.45	15.46				
South	I (ref.)	1.00			1.00				1.00				
	IIA	3.01	0.64	1.98	4.55	3.06	0.66	2.00	4.68	2.37	0.42	1.69	3.32
	IIIB	7.18	1.47	4.81	10.71	7.21	1.50	4.79	10.86	4.84	0.76	3.58	6.54
	IIIA	8.83	2.04	5.60	13.90	8.78	2.06	5.54	13.91	7.88	1.49	5.48	11.32
	IIIB	12.51	2.68	8.22	19.03	12.21	2.67	7.96	18.74	9.29	1.59	6.68	12.93
	IIIC	14.65	3.83	8.78	24.46	14.15	3.73	8.44	23.72	13.95	2.78	9.53	20.42
	IV	48.25	9.56	32.72	71.13	46.68	9.45	31.39	69.40	28.27	4.44	20.87	38.28
	missing					9.34	1.92	6.25	13.98				

AIRTUM-pool and geographic areas. Five-years relative survival, Excess-hazard ratio for stage (reference stage = 1), adjusted by follow-up time, period of diagnosis, age group, cancer registry on (a) the cases with complete information for stage variable, (b) all cases, considering missing in stage variable as a valid category - missing category method, (c) on all cases, after applying multiple imputation

# Risultati

	0-49		50-59		60-69		70+	
	n. and % of analysed cases	% of analysed cases after imputation procedure	n. and % of analysed cases	% of analysed cases after imputation procedure	n. and % of analysed cases	% of analysed cases after imputation procedure	n. and % of analysed cases	% of analysed cases after imputation procedure
I	7972 (34%)	41%	9549 (39%)	46%	11373 (40%)	47%	8298 (22%)	30%
IIA	5318 (23%)	28%	5146 (21%)	25%	5789 (20%)	24%	6379 (17%)	24%
IIIB	2692 (12%)	14%	2275 (9%)	12%	2569 (9%)	11%	3314 (9%)	14%
IIIA	1382 (6%)	8%	1218 (5%)	6%	1269 (4%)	6%	1479 (4%)	8%
IIIB	533 (2%)	3%	672 (3%)	4%	1016 (4%)	5%	2200 (6%)	10%
IIIC	377 (2%)	2%	421 (2%)	2%	440 (2%)	2%	589 (2%)	4%
IV	525 (2%)	4%	694 (3%)	4%	879 (3%)	5%	1568 (4%)	11%
missing	4547 (19%)		4383 (18%)		5126 (18%)		13997 (37%)	
	23346 (100%)	100%	24358 (100%)	100%	28461 (100%)	100%	37824 (100%)	100%

Distribution of analysed cases by geographic area, TNM stage and period, n. and percentage. Percentage after imputation procedure.

a = n. and % of analysed cases, b = % of analysed cases after imputation procedure



# Conclusioni

- ✓ Dati di popolazione e stadio del tumore della mammella femminile: l'ipotesi MAR -> buona prima approssimazione
- ✓ Presentare entrambe le analisi (con e senza dati mancanti) devono essere presentati.
- ✓ Uso dello stesso metodo.
- ✓ Imputazione multipla: tecnica appropriata per trattare informazioni mancanti sullo stadio del tumore nei registri tumori di popolazione, se la quantità di casi non stadiati è ad un livello ragionevole.
- ✓ Stime simili degli EHR per la variabile incompleta stadio alla diagnosi e per le altre variabili: queste analisi rassicurano sulla validità delle valutazioni di sopravvivenza tradizionali svolte sulla base dei dati dei registri dei tumori italiani.



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## Special Article

### Use of Multiple Imputation in the Epidemiologic Literature

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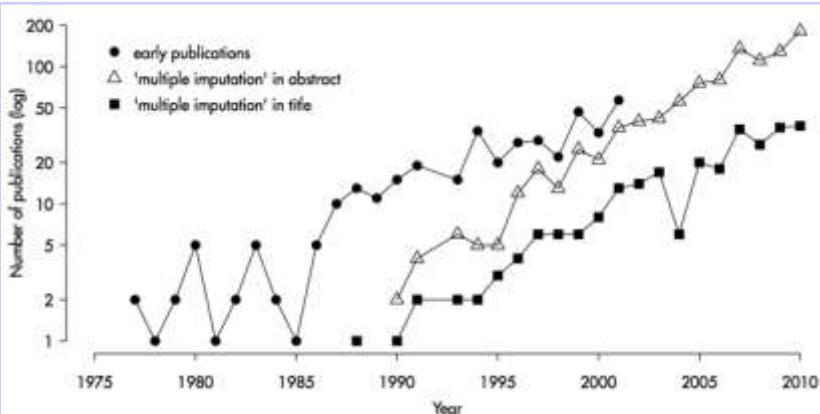
The authors attempted to catalog the use of procedures to impute missing data in the epidemiologic literature and to determine the degree to which imputed results differed in practice from unimputed results. The full text of articles published in 2005 and 2006 in four leading epidemiologic journals was searched for the text *imput*. Sixteen articles utilizing multiple imputation, inverse probability weighting, or the expectation-maximization algorithm to impute missing data were found. The small number of relevant manuscripts and diversity of detail provided precluded systematic analysis of the use of imputation procedures. To form a bridge between current and future practice, the authors suggest details that should be included in articles that utilize these procedures.

expectation; imputation; missing data; probability weighting.

"We remain hopeful that inclusion of our suggested details in future publications will demonstrate to the field at large how imputation can reduce bias and increase precision in everyday use and that investigators will become more likely to utilize these methods".

ISPO  
ISTITUTO PER LO STUDIO  
E LA PREVENZIONE ONCOLOGICA

"Theory suggests that, if correctly and thoughtfully applied, **imputation methods should reduce bias and increase precision** in everyday use. We were **unable to assess the impact** of these methods in practice because of the **rarity of use and lack of detail in description**".





[http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/slaits/imputed\\_data.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/slaits/imputed_data.htm)

SLAITS - Imputed Data in SLAITS Microdata Sets - Windows Internet Explorer

File Modifica Visualizza Preferiti Strumenti ?  
Portale Stipendi http://www.registri-tum...  
masti... nhan... http://... Apple... http://... Nation... NHAN... Search... SLAITS http://... FTP Di...  
Trova: imp Precedente Avanti Opzioni ?

Per facilitare la protezione, è stato impedito al sito di visualizzare contenuto con errori nel certificato di protezione. Fare clic qui per ulteriori opzioni..

CDC Home CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives. Protecting People.™  
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State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey

NCHS Home > Surveys and Data Collection Systems > State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey  
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## Imputed Data in SLAITS Microdata Sets

This page contains links to SLAITS microdata sets that include data that have undergone imputation (with related documentation). **Imputation** is a statistical technique that attempts to address missing data in sample survey datasets through simulation. Data can be missing for a number of reasons: the respondent either did not know the answer to question(s); chose to skip question(s); refused to answer question(s); or question(s) were erroneously not asked. A high level of missing data limits the ability of analysts to draw conclusions from the survey.

To derive the imputed values, an imputation algorithm or model is developed to predict data for the missing variable(s) by taking the observed values into account. In single imputation modeling, the model is run once to predict the missing datum (data). In multiple imputation, the model is run more than once (typically five times) to predict the missing datum (data) and permit more accurate variance estimation.

The highlighted links below connect to the imputed microdata, a report describing the creation and use of the imputed data, and (in some cases) sample SAS programs.

### 2001 National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs

- An indicator variable was developed using single imputation to identify income status below 200% of the Federal poverty level for uninsured children. This variable (POV200\_1) is included on the insurance data file (October 2003)
  - [Imputation of Low-Income Status Report](#) [PDF - 320 KB]
  - [Data Sets](#)
- Detailed income values relative to the Federal poverty level were developed using multiple imputation (June 2007)
  - [Multiple Imputation of Missing Household Poverty Values Report](#) [PDF - 320 KB]
  - [Datasets and SAS Programs](#)

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**SLAITS**  
State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey

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- Airtum Working Group**
- Università degli Studi di Torino**
- Fondazione ISI, Torino**
- Emanuele Crocetti**
- Enzo Coviello**
- Costanza Pizzi**

# Background: Italian Cancer Registry



✓ Incidence and risk factor

1980

✓ Prevalence and survival

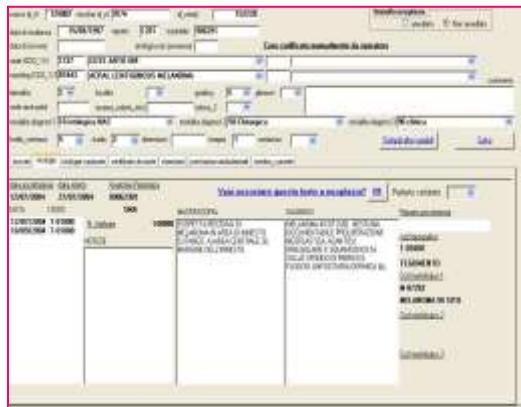
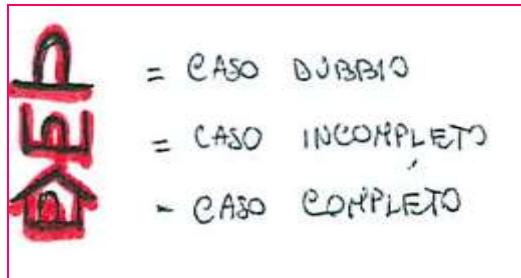
1990

✓ impact of screening programs

2000

✓ Diagnostic and therapeutic iter's evaluation

2010



- ✓ Hospital discharge records
- ✓ Pathology records
- ✓ Death certificates

...

- ✓ Oncology, radiology and
- ✓ Haematology outpatients data
- ✓ Specialist services
- ✓ Exemptions from payment
- ✓ Pharmacology databases
- ✓ Screening services' information
- ✓ Reimbursement (treatment abroad)
- ✓ Palliative care services' data
- ✓ Diagnostic imaging services

# Metodo delle imputazioni multiple



## ✓ *Imputations*

- ✓ Generate  $m$  incomplete copies of the data-sets, replacing missing values with values extracted from the posterior distribution of the data

## ✓ *Analysys*

- ✓ Of each data-set separately

## ✓ *Pooling*

- ✓ *Point estimates*
- ✓ *Standard errors.*

**Net survival**  
(to breast cancer)



**Cause specific survival**  
event = death due to breast cancer

**Relative survival**

event = death  
✓ qualità definizione causa  
✓ cause multiple

All causes of death  
Study population

Reference population

$$\frac{S_o}{S_e}$$

Instantaneous death rate in time  $t$ , measured among alive patients

$$\lambda(t) = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{P(t < T \leq t + \Delta t | T \geq t)}{\Delta t} = \frac{d \ln[S(t)]}{dt}$$

[0; +\infty)

+ flexibility

excess mortality

$$v(t; z) - \exp(\alpha + X\beta)_z$$

# Application: Results



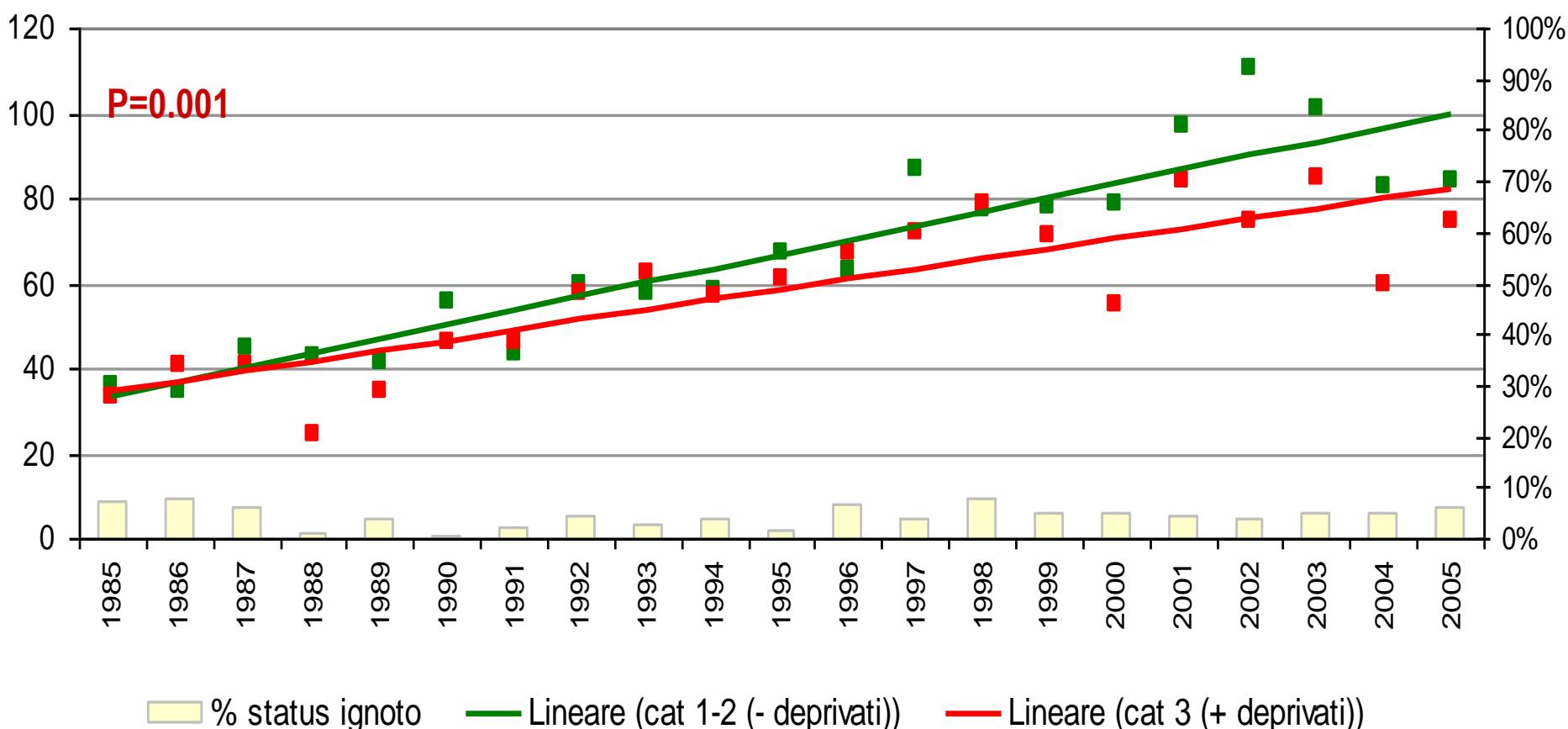
		Cases with complete information in stage variable				Complete analysis (all cases)				Cases, after imputation procedure			
Area	stage	EHR	Err. Std.	95% CI	p-value	EHR	Err. Std.	95% CI	p-value	EHR	Err. Std.	95% CI	p-value
AIRTUM-pool	I (ref.)	1				1				1			
	IIA	5.02	0.54	4.07	6.18	5.48	0.66	4.33	6.94	5.08	0.51	4.17	6.2
	IIB	12.79	1.28	10.5	15.57	13.98	1.6	11.17	17.49	13	1.28	10.7	15.78
	IIIA	20.28	2.34	16.18	25.41	22.21	2.86	17.26	28.6	20.96	2.1	17.21	25.53
	IIIB	24.91	3.29	19.23	32.26	25.99	3.55	19.88	33.98	26.63	2.9	21.5	32.98
	IIIC	34.44	4.09	27.29	43.46	36.94	4.97	28.38	48.1	37.29	4.76	29.04	47.9
	IV	118.18	13.28	94.81	147.3	112.45	13.83	88.36	143.12	78.49	8.76	63.05	97.73
					< 0.0000	18.81	2.47	14.54	24.34	< 0.0000			< 0.0000

AIRTUM-pool and geographic areas. Five-years relative survival, Excess-hazard ratio for stage (reference stage = 1), adjusted by follow-up time, period of diagnosis, age group, cancer registry on (a) the cases with complete information for stage variable, (b) all cases, considering missing in stage variable as a valid category - missing category method, (c) on all cases, after applying multiple imputation

# PROSTATA



Comune di Firenze. Tumore della prostata. Tassi di incidenza std pop. EU per status socioeconomico



# Definitions (Rubin)



*“It is not possible to distinguish between MAR and MNAR only on the basis of the observed data; however collecting and including in the analyses the variables potentially associated with the outcomes, makes the assumption MAR more plausible”*

Rubin, DB, Multiple Imputation for Nonresponse in Surveys, 1987, New York, Wiley

# Metodi ad-hoc per il trattamento dei dati mancanti



- Complete records analysis
- Missing category method
- Mean imputation
- Regression (conditional) mean imputation
- Random or stochastic regression imputation
- Multiple imputation (MI)
- Inverse probability weighting

# Metodi ad-hoc per il trattamento dei dati mancanti

**Table 2** Adjusted<sup>a</sup> EHR of death within 1 and 5 years of diagnosis, after use of different methods to impute missing data values: adults diagnosed with colorectal cancer during 1997–2004 in the North West Region of England



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© 2008 American Society of Clinical Oncology.  
Modelling relative survival in the presence of incomplete data: a tutorial  
Ute Netter<sup>1</sup>, Lorraine G. Shattock<sup>1,2</sup>, Bernhard Rücker<sup>1</sup>, James K. Carpenter<sup>3</sup> and Michael P. Odegaard<sup>2</sup>

## complete case analysis

	EHR	95% CI	
--	-----	--------	--

### Stage

I	<b>1.00</b>	—	—
II	<b>3.56</b>	2.69	4.72
III	<b>10.20</b>	7.72	13.48
IV	<b>26.39</b>	19.60	35.53

Missing

### Morphology

Adenocarcinoma	<b>1.00</b>	—	—
Mucinous and serous	<b>1.03</b>	0.94	1.13
Other	<b>1.17</b>	0.61	2.24
Neoplasm NOS			

### Grade

I	<b>1.00</b>	—	—
II	<b>1.18</b>	1.07	1.30
III/IV	<b>2.04</b>	1.82	2.28
Missing			

### Colorectal site (ICD-10 code)

Colon (C18)	<b>1.00</b>	—	—
Rectosigmoid (C19)	<b>0.82</b>	0.73	0.91
Rectum (C20)	<b>0.76</b>	0.70	0.82

### Sex

Male	<b>1.00</b>	—	—
Female	<b>0.93</b>	0.88	0.99

	Variable	Patients	
		N	%
		29 563	100
	<b>Stage</b>		
	I	2193	7.4
	II	7326	24.8
	III	7726	26.1
	IV	643	2.2
	Missing	11 684	39.5

# Metodi ad-hoc per il trattamento dei dati mancanti

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Modelling relative survival in the presence of incomplete data: a tutorial  
Ute Netter<sup>1</sup>, Lorraine G. Stylianou<sup>1,2</sup>, Bertrand Ruchat<sup>1</sup>, James K. Carpenter<sup>3</sup> and Michel P. Odekerken<sup>2</sup>



## missing category method

	EHR	95% CI	
<b>Stage</b>			
I	<b>1.00</b>	—	—
II	<b>3.10</b>	2.39	4.03
III	<b>8.35</b>	6.46	10.80
IV	<b>19.12</b>	14.56	25.11
Missing	<b>11.54</b>	8.94	14.91
<b>Morphology</b>			
Adenocarcinoma	<b>1.00</b>	—	—
Mucinous and serous	<b>1.12</b>	1.04	1.21
Other	<b>1.29</b>	0.98	1.68
Neoplasm NOS	<b>2.71</b>	2.52	2.90
<b>Grade</b>			
I	<b>1.00</b>	—	—
II	<b>1.26</b>	1.16	1.37
III/IV	<b>2.31</b>	2.10	2.55
Missing	<b>1.50</b>	1.37	1.65
<b>Colorectal site (ICD-10)</b>			
Colon (C18)	<b>1.00</b>	—	—
Rectosigmoid (C19)	<b>0.93</b>	0.86	1.00
Rectum (C20)	<b>0.84</b>	0.81	0.88
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	<b>1.00</b>	—	—
Female	<b>0.96</b>	0.92	1.00

Variable	Patients	
	N	%
Stage	29 563	100
I	2193	7.4
II	7326	24.8
III	7726	26.1
IV	643	2.2
Missing	11 684	39.5