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Competing risks and multistate models Topic:

A MULTI-STATE MODEL EVALUATING THE ASSOCIATION OF OXYGEN THERAPY WITH THE COURSE OF CYSTIC FIBROSIS IN EUROPE Abstract Title

The most serious complications of cystic fibrosis (CF) relate to respiratory failure, leading to hypoxemia, which

is the time when the respiratory system is profoundly compromised by the disease. Oxygen therapy (OT) is Introduction then prescribed to restore oxygen levels in the blood. [1] Also, some people with CF (pwCF) can have lung transplantation (LTx) during their life. Association between dependence OT and natural disease progression in pwCF becomes challenging, and it has not been estimated yet. We therefore used the multi-state model to Objective(s):

estimate the transition probabilities from being alive without LTx to LTx and to death, and from being alive after

LTx to death in pwCF with and without OT.

We used 10 years' data from the 35-country European CF Society Patient Registry (ECFSPR). A multi-state regression model was fitted using age as timescale to assess the effects of individual risk factors on transition probabilities. We considered 48,343 pwCF aged 6 to 50 years. OT (HR 5.78, 95%CI: 5.32 - 6.29) and abnormal FEV1 (HR 6.41, 95%CI: 5.28 - 7.79) were strongly associated with the probability of having LTx; chronic infection with Burkholderia cepacia complex (HR 3.19, 95%CI: 2.78 - 3.67), abnormal FEV1 (HR 5.00, 95%CI: 4.11 - 6.08) and the need for OT (HR 4.32, 95%CI: 3.93 - 4.76) showed the greatest association with the probability of dying without LTx. Once pwCF received LTx, OT (HR 1.75, 95%CI: 1.41 - 2.16) and abnormal

Method(s) and Results: FEV1 (HR 1.63, 95%CI: 1.18 - 2.25) were the main factors associated with the probability of dying. We also

found an association between gross national income and the probability of receiving LTx, which is lower for pwCF living in low-income European countries.

Oxygen therapy, as a proxy for disease severity, is associated with poor survival in pwCF, even after LTx.; harmonization of CF care throughout European countries remains of paramount importance. Conclusions

[1] Elphick HE, Mallory G. Oxygen therapy for cystic fibrosis. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2009; (1):CD003884. doi:10.1002/14651858.CD003884.pub3 References

Multi-state model, cystic fibrosis, survival analysis Keywords

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