

# Fitting a Model of the Mortality Reductions Produced by One/Several Rounds of Cancer Screening:

## Time and Sample Size Considerations

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Statistical Society of Canada Annual Meeting  
Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario  
2016-05-31

# Dedication

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**HARVARD**gazette

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## HSPH's Marvin Zelen dies at 87

Was considered a 'tremendous force' in biostatistics

November 19, 2014 | Editor's Pick



Photo by Shaina Andelman

Harvard Professor Marvin Zelen was noted for developing the statistical methods and study designs that are used in clinical cancer trials, in which experimental drugs are tested for toxicity, effectiveness, and proper dosage.

HSPH Communications

Professor Marvin Zelen of the Department of Biostatistics at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (HSPH) died on Nov. 15 after a battle with cancer. He was 87.

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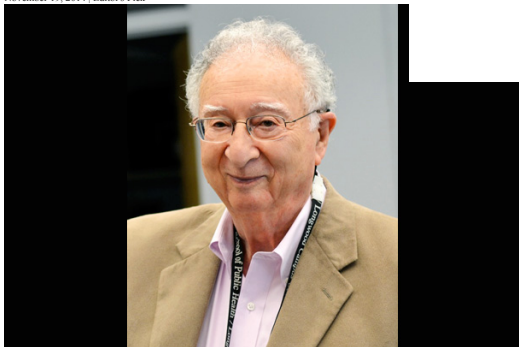


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BY PING HU AND MARVIN ZELEN

*Division of Biostatistics, Dana Farber Cancer Institute, 44 Binney Street  
Massachusetts 02115, U.S.A.*

e-mail: [phu@jimmy.harvard.edu](mailto:phu@jimmy.harvard.edu) [zelen@jimmy.harvard.edu](mailto:zelen@jimmy.harvard.edu)

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e-mail: [phu@jimmy.harvard.edu](mailto:phu@jimmy.harvard.edu) [zelen@jimmy.harvard.edu](mailto:zelen@jimmy.harvard.edu)

## Biometrics 2008

### Mortality Modeling of Early Detection I

Sandra J. Lee\* and Marvin Zelen

Harvard School of Public Health and the Dana-Farber Cancer  
Boston, Massachusetts 02115, U.S.A.

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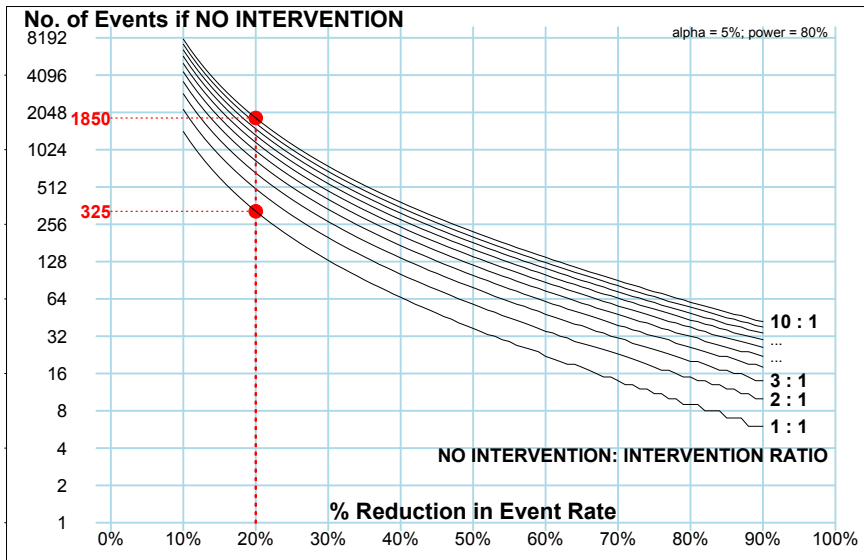
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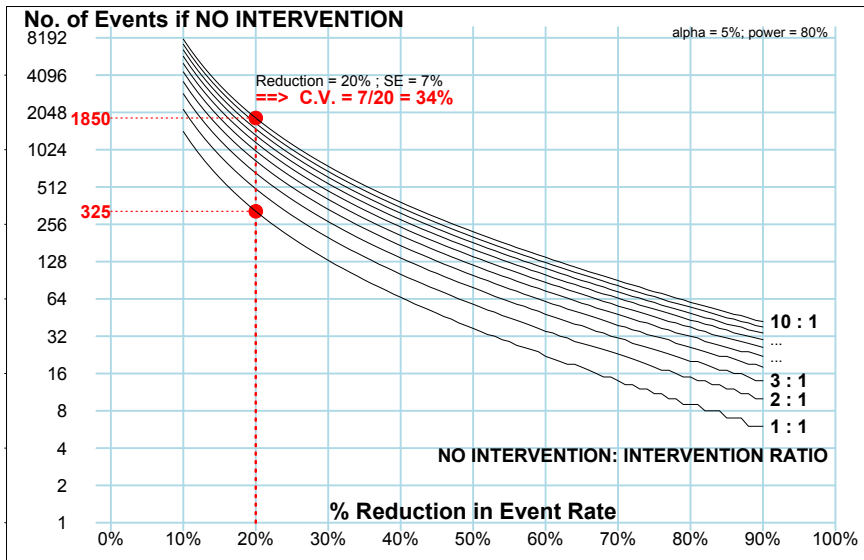
- Cancer Screening is different from prevention/treatment:  
if it works, it produces a **Bathtub-shaped Hazard Ratio (HR) function**
- A condn'l approach to fit HR models to **Lexis array** of Counts & Population-Times
- **No. of years of screening and follow-up** needed to fit 2-parameter model and (scalar) resultant?
- Which Lexis **cells provide the most information** on these?
- **Implications of findings**

# Number-of-Events-based Sample Size Planning

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or...

- **STOP COUNTING AS SOON AS PROTECTION STOPS**
  - **Blood thinners**
  - **beta blockers**

Reduction is CONSIDERABLY DELAYED in ...

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PROSTATE CANCER SCREENING

## Screening & Prostate-Ca Mortality in Randomized European Study '92-'08 ("ERSPC" nejm2009.04)

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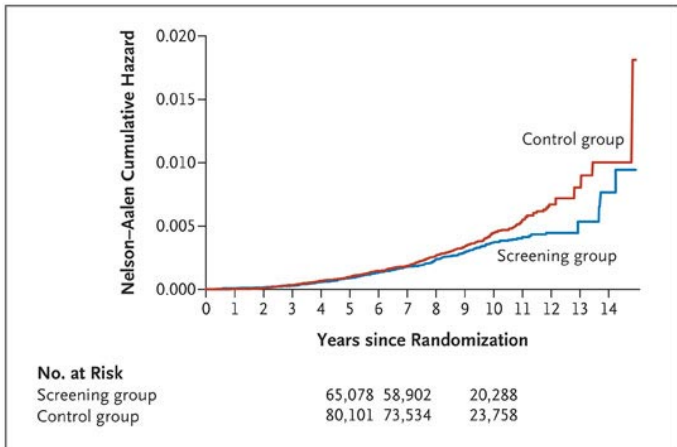
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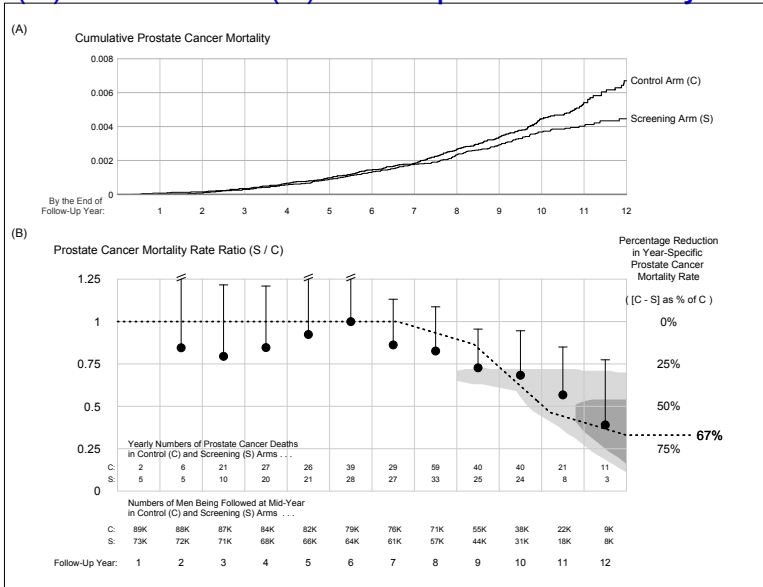




RE-ANALYSIS OF ERSPC DATA  
using  
year-specific prostate cancer mortality ratios

## (A) Overall vs. (B) Year-specific mortality ratios

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# Reductions EVENTUALLY CEASE: 30-year follow-up in Minnesota Trial

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## Long-Term Mortality after Screening for Colorectal Cancer

Aasma Shaukat, M.D., M.P.H., Steven J. Mongin, M.S., Mindy S. Geisser, M.S.,  
Frank A. Lederle, M.D., John H. Bond, M.D., Jack S. Mandel, Ph.D., M.P.H.,  
and Timothy R. Church, Ph.D.

### ABSTRACT

#### BACKGROUND

In randomized trials, fecal occult-blood testing reduces mortality from colorectal cancer. However, the duration of the benefit is unknown, as are the effects specific to age and sex.

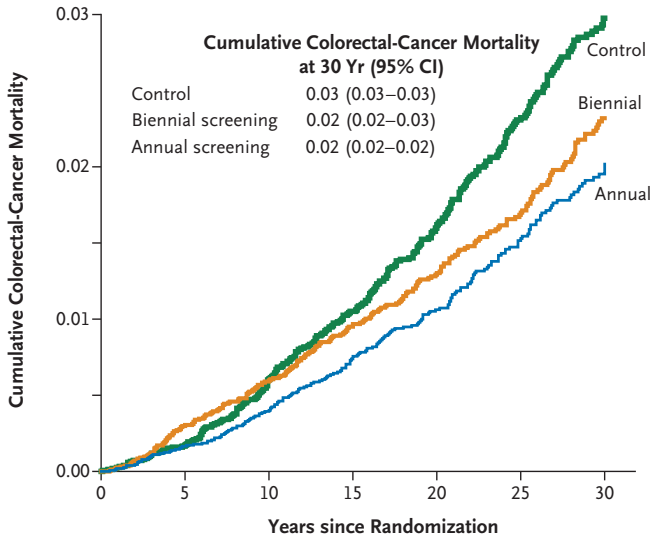
#### METHODS

In the Minnesota Colon Cancer Control Study, 46,551 participants, 50 to 80 years of age, were randomly assigned to **usual care (control)** or to **annual** or **biennial** screening with **fecal occult-blood testing**. Screening was performed from 1976 through 1982 and from 1986 through 1992. We used the National Death Index to obtain updated information on the vital status of participants and to determine causes of death through 2008.

From the Divisions of Gastroenterology (A.S., J.H.B.) and Internal Medicine (F.A.L.), Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Health Care System, and the Department of Medicine, School of Medicine (A.S., F.A.L., J.H.B.), and the Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health (S.J.M., M.S.G., T.R.C.), University of Minnesota — both in Minneapolis; and Exponent, Menlo Park, CA (J.S.M.). Address reprint requests to Dr. Shaukat at 1 Veterans Dr., 111-D, Minneapolis, MN 55417.

*N Engl J Med* 2013;369:1106-14.  
DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1300720

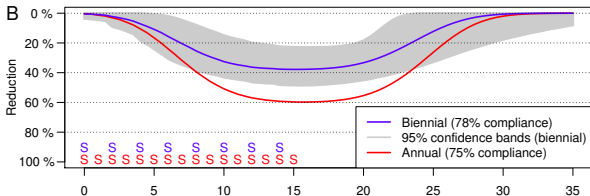
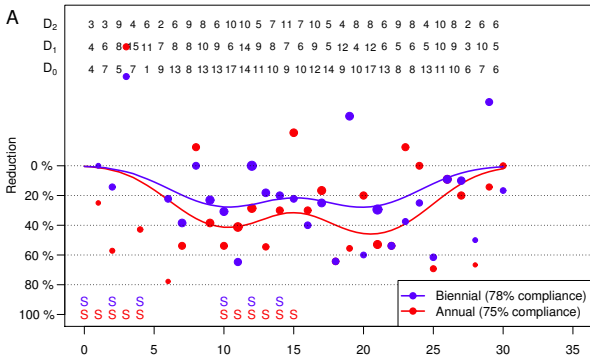
Copyright © 2013 Massachusetts Medical Society.



**No. at Risk**

Control	14,497	13,103	11,320	9157	6741	4450
Biennial screening	14,635	13,243	11,445	9323	6802	4583
Annual screening	14,658	13,294	11,437	9219	6802	4498

# Liu Model: A Fitted to Data; B Projected i.e., no interruption. 6 & 11 Rounds



# SCREENING for BREAST CANCER



???

## Magnitude of reductions being achieved with contemporary mammography

Estimates from (non-experimental) population-based studies

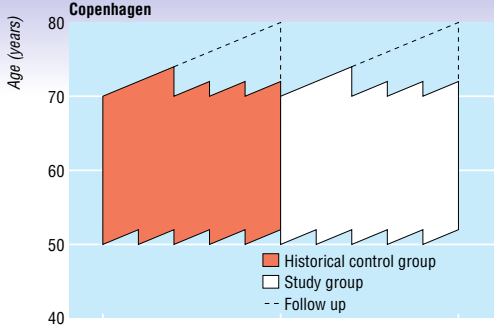


Cite this article as: **BMJ**, doi:10.1136/bmj.38313.639236.82 (published 13 January 2005)

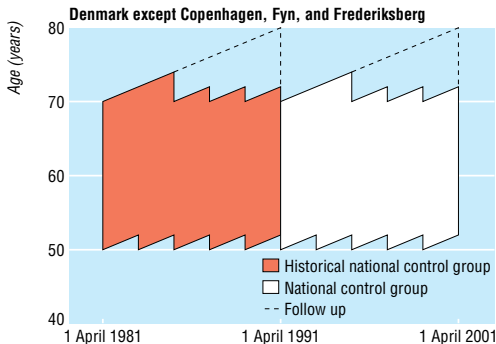
# Papers

## **Breast cancer mortality in Copenhagen after introduction of mammography screening: cohort study**

Anne Helene Olsen, Sisse H Njor, Ilse Vejborg, Walter Schwartz, Peter Dalgaard, Maj-Britt Jensen, Ulla Brix Tange, Mogens Blichert-Toft, Fritz Rank, Henning Mouridsen, Elsebeth Lyng



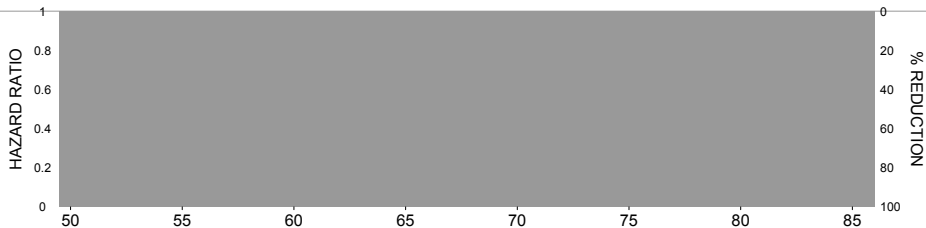
Copenhagen  
0.43 Million WY; ??? deaths



Rest of Denmark (10 x)  
4.3 Million WY; 2,300 deaths

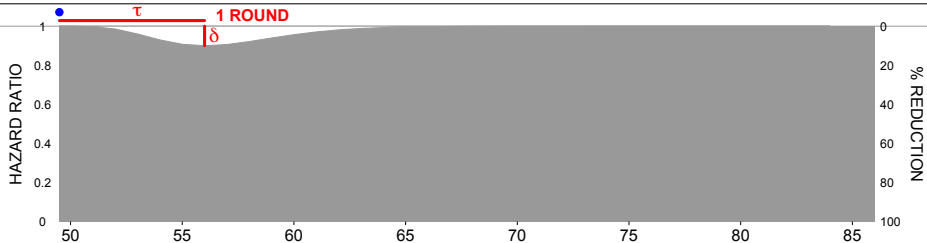
## 1-D time-pattern of mortality deficits (HRs) if NO screening

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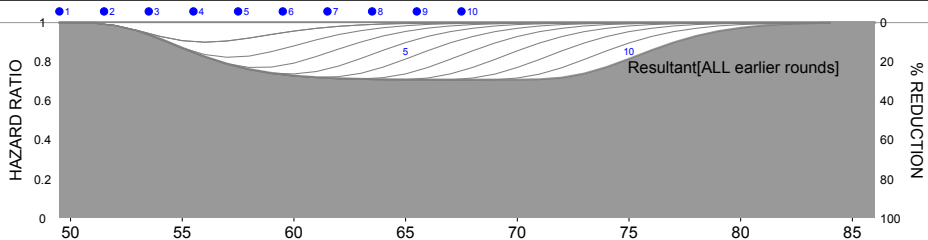
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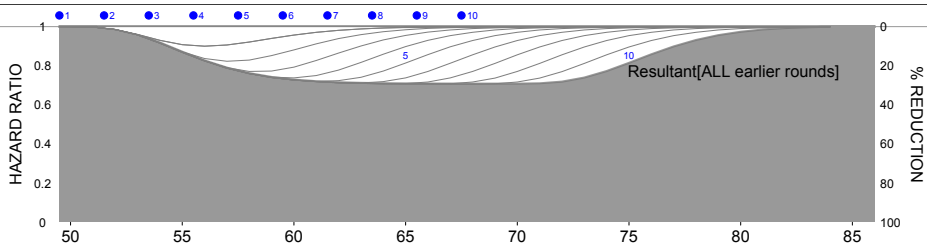


1-D HR pattern if ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● rounds

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Zhihui (Amy) LIU **PhD Thesis 2104**

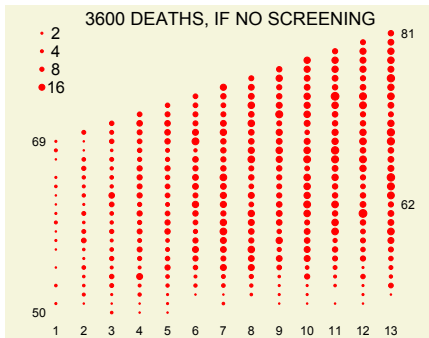
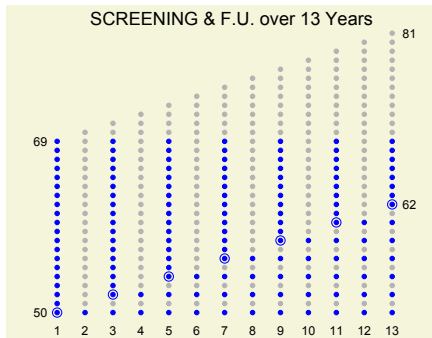
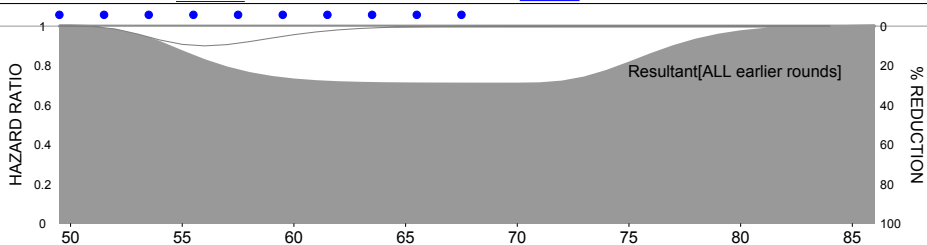
Zhihui (Amy) LIU, James A. Hanley , Olli Saarela and Nandini Dendukuri  
A Conditional Approach to Measure Mortality Reductions Due to Cancer Screening  
**International Statistical Review (2015)**, 0, 0, 1?18 doi:10.1111/insr.12088

## 2-D [year-and- age-specific] time-pattern of mortality deficits



WHAT IF 13 yrs. of screening & F.U., and 3,600 deaths in unscreened?

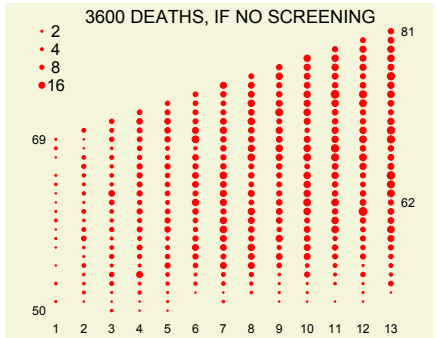
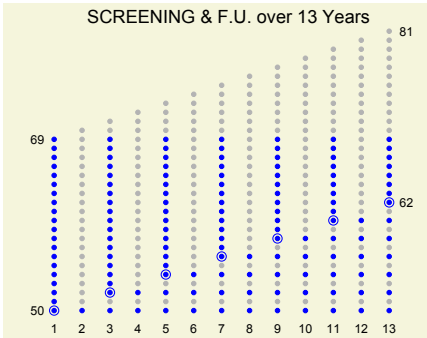
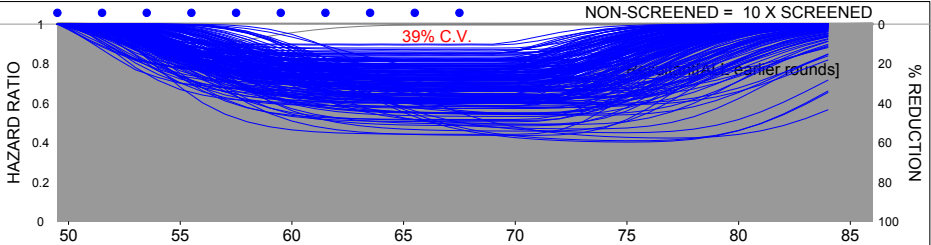
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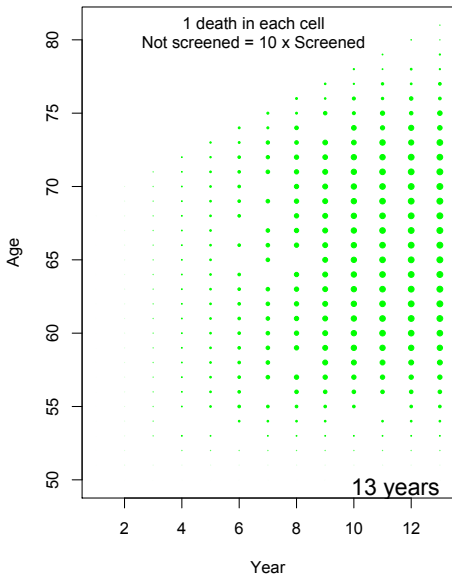
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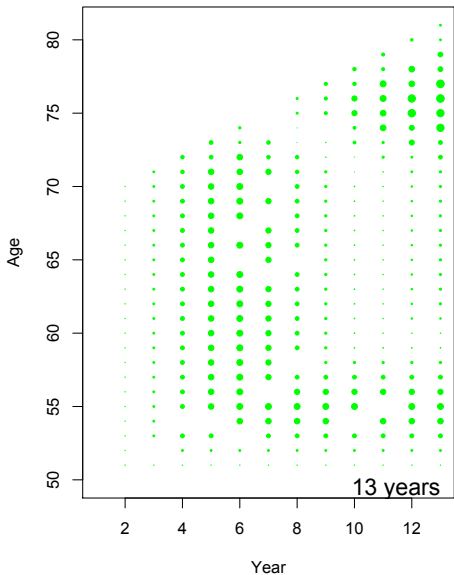
Info. re 2 model parameters provided by each death

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### Information[Max. Reduction]

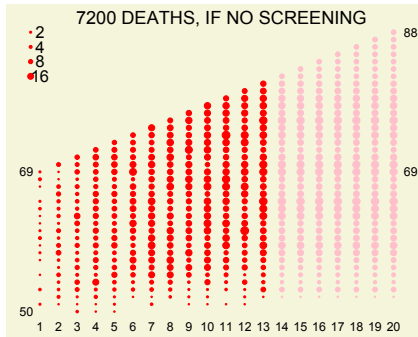
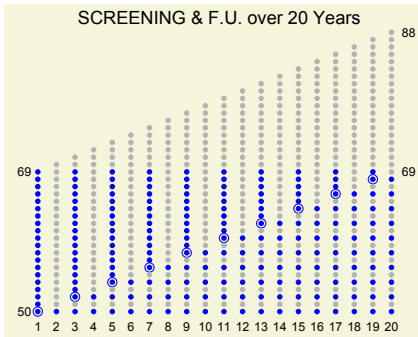
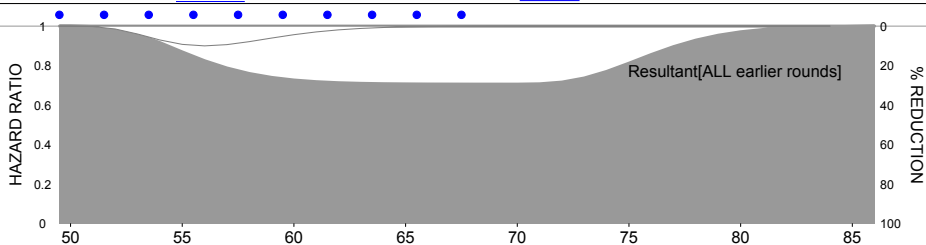


### Info.[Location of Max. Reduction]



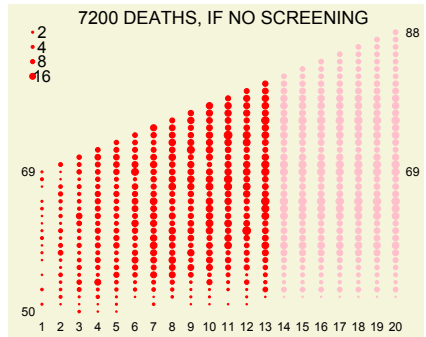
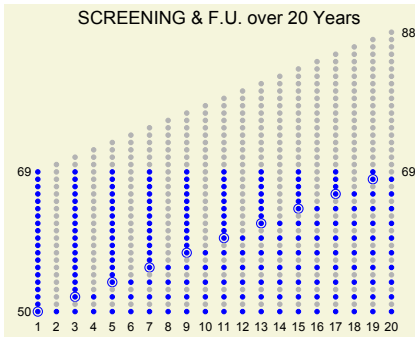
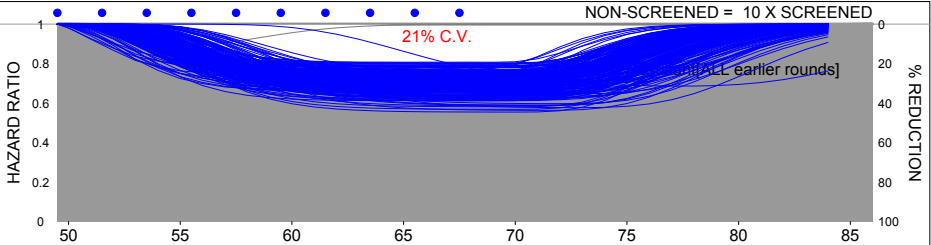
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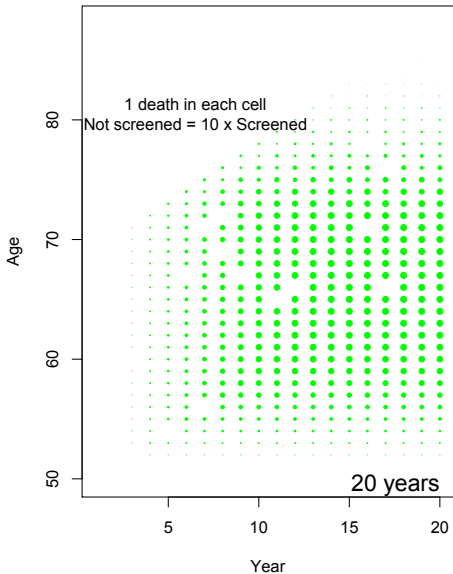


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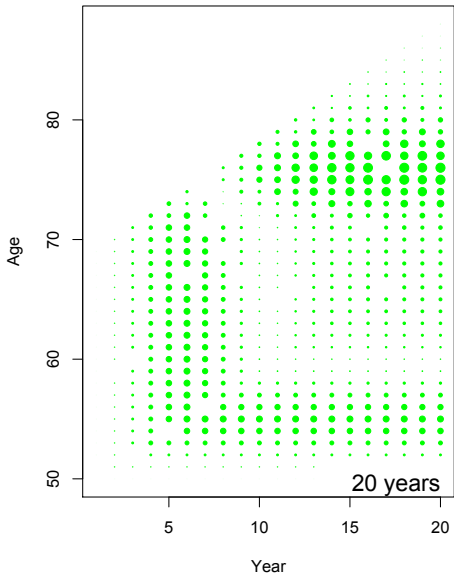


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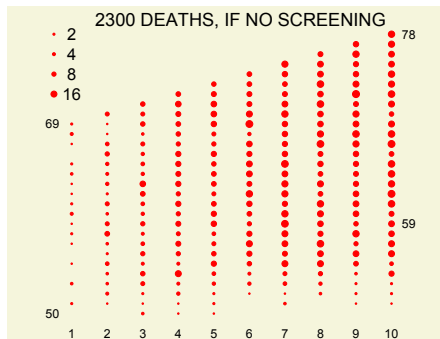
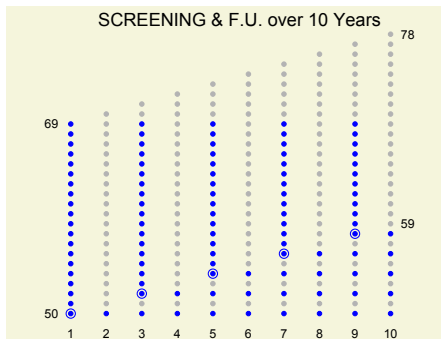
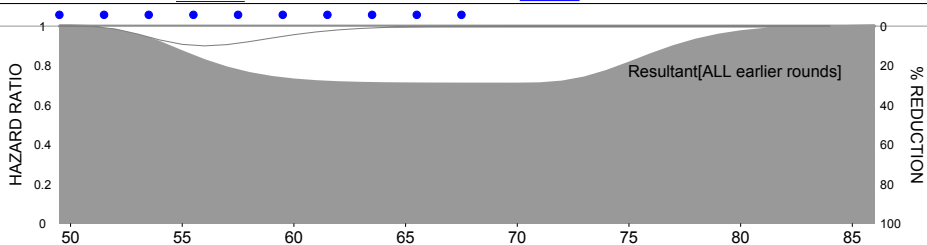


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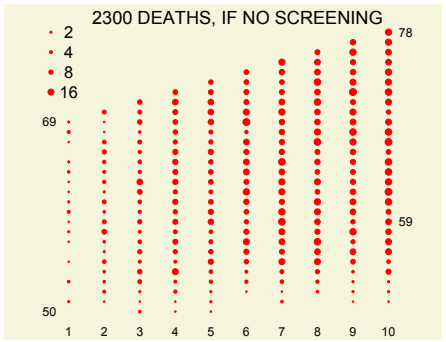
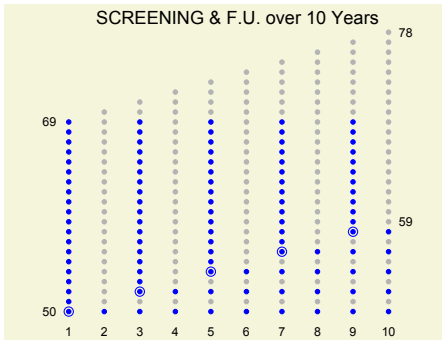
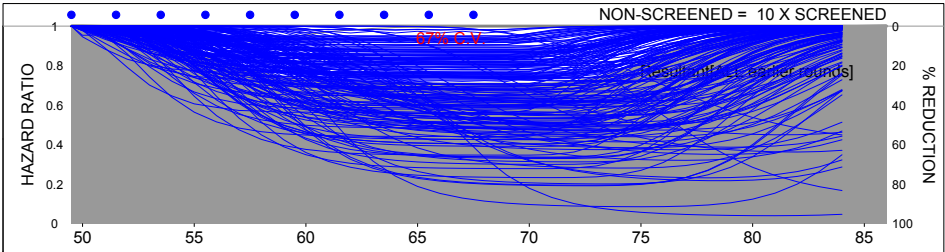
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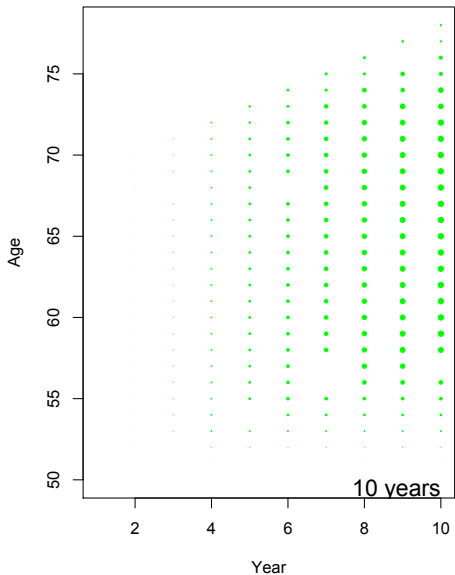
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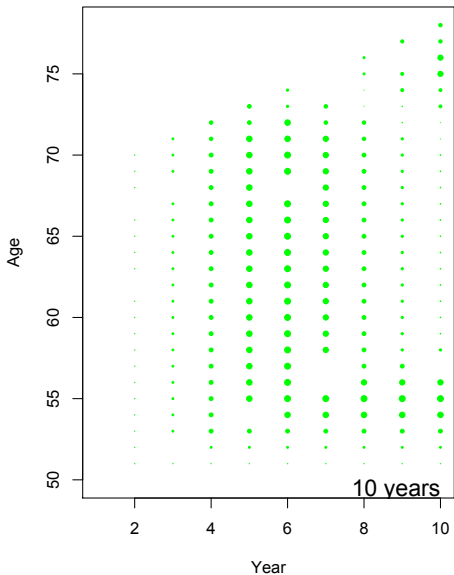
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- May have to limit to **just first half** of, rather than the full bathtub-shaped HR **function**
- Helps to study **individual** (Lexis Cell) contributions to the **Information Matrix**

## DOWNLOADS / FUNDING

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<http://www.biostat.mcgill.ca/hanley>

or Google "James Hanley McGill"

CIHR