Supplementary material for Meta-analysis with competing time-to-events end-points by Alessandra Meddis* et al.

Additional results for Nasopharyngeal carcinoma meta-analysis

A.1. Cumulative incidence function

In Figure 1 we provide the cumulative incidence functions for each of the chemotherapy modalities. The proportion of event in the population treated by concomitant plus adjuvant chemotherapy is likely to be higher compared to the other groups.

A.2. Forest plot for distant without relapse

Results for the competing event of death without failure are shown in Figure 2. The subdistribution hazard ratios and cause specific hazard ratios are provided to examine the treatment effect (addition of chemotherapy to radiotherapy) and the I^2 statistics quantifies the impact of heterogeneity on the results.

A.3. Additional results for non proportionality

The Schoenfeld's residuals plot and the cumulative subdistribution plot are graphical methods to study the proportionality of the subdistribution hazards. The plots for studies where non-proportionality was detected by PSH.test are illustrated in Figures 3 and 4.

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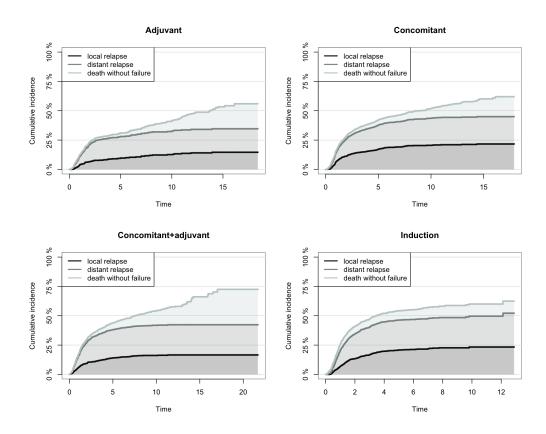


Figure 1: Stacked plot of the cumulative incidence functions in each treatment subgroup for all the competing time-to-event: time to local relapse (black), time to distant relapse (grey), time to death without relapse (light grey)

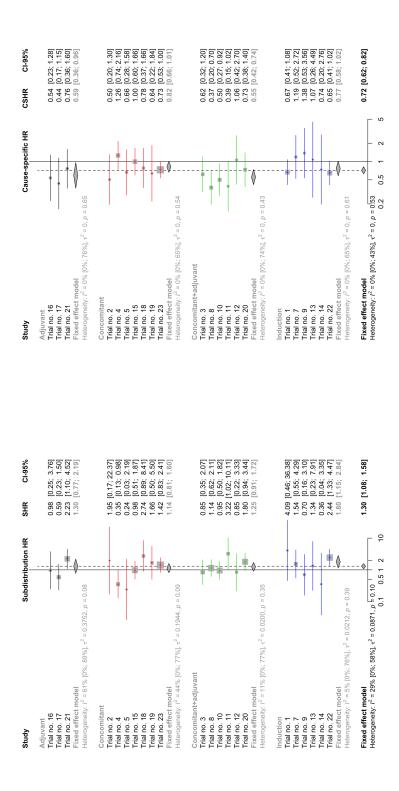


Figure 2: Forest plot for death without failure. Subdistribution HRs and CSHRs are provided for each trial which are grouped according to the chemotherapy modalities. The I^2 represents the heterogeneity and τ^2 the between-studies variation.

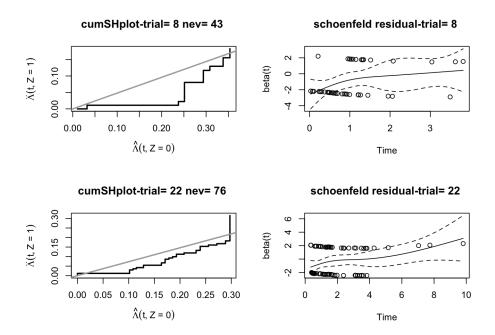


Figure 3: Schoenfeld's residuals plot and cumulative subdistribution hazards plot for the studies where non-proportionality was detected by PSH.test (local relapse).

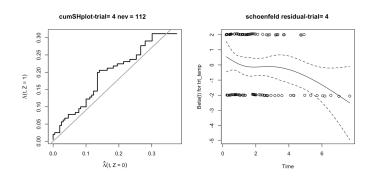


Figure 4: Schoenfeld's residuals plot and cumulative subdistribution hazards plot for the studiy where non-proportionality was detected by PSH.test (distant relapse).