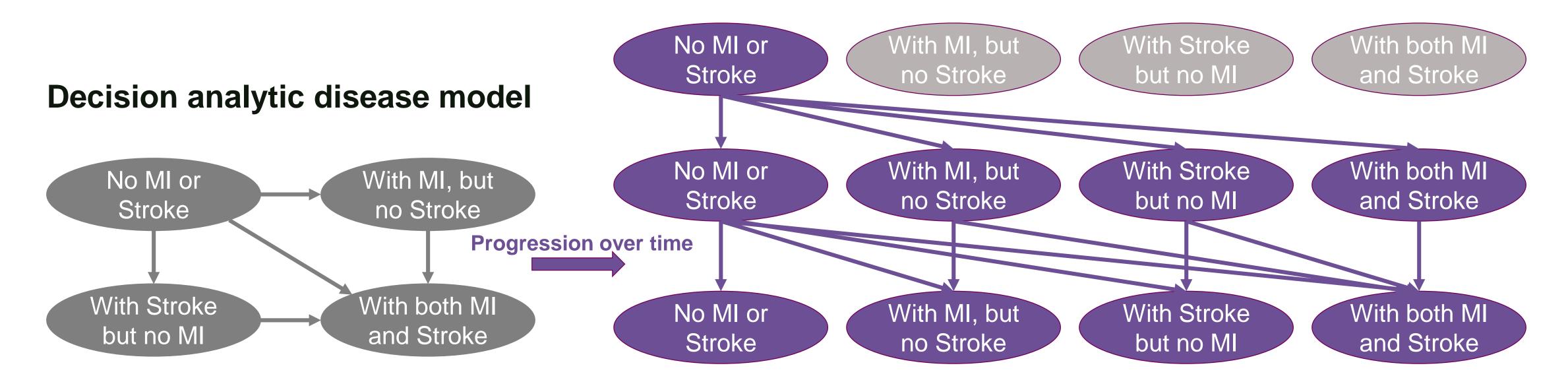


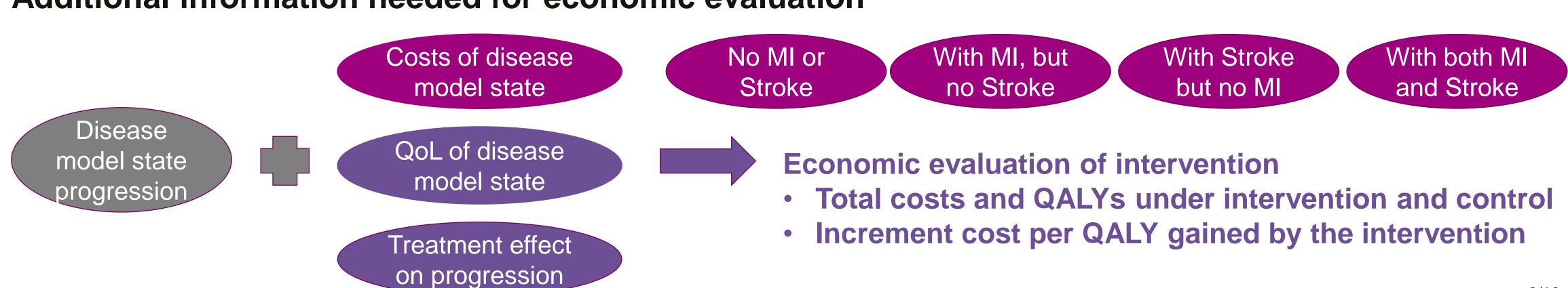
# Estimating Costs Associated with Disease Model States Using Generalized Linear Models in R

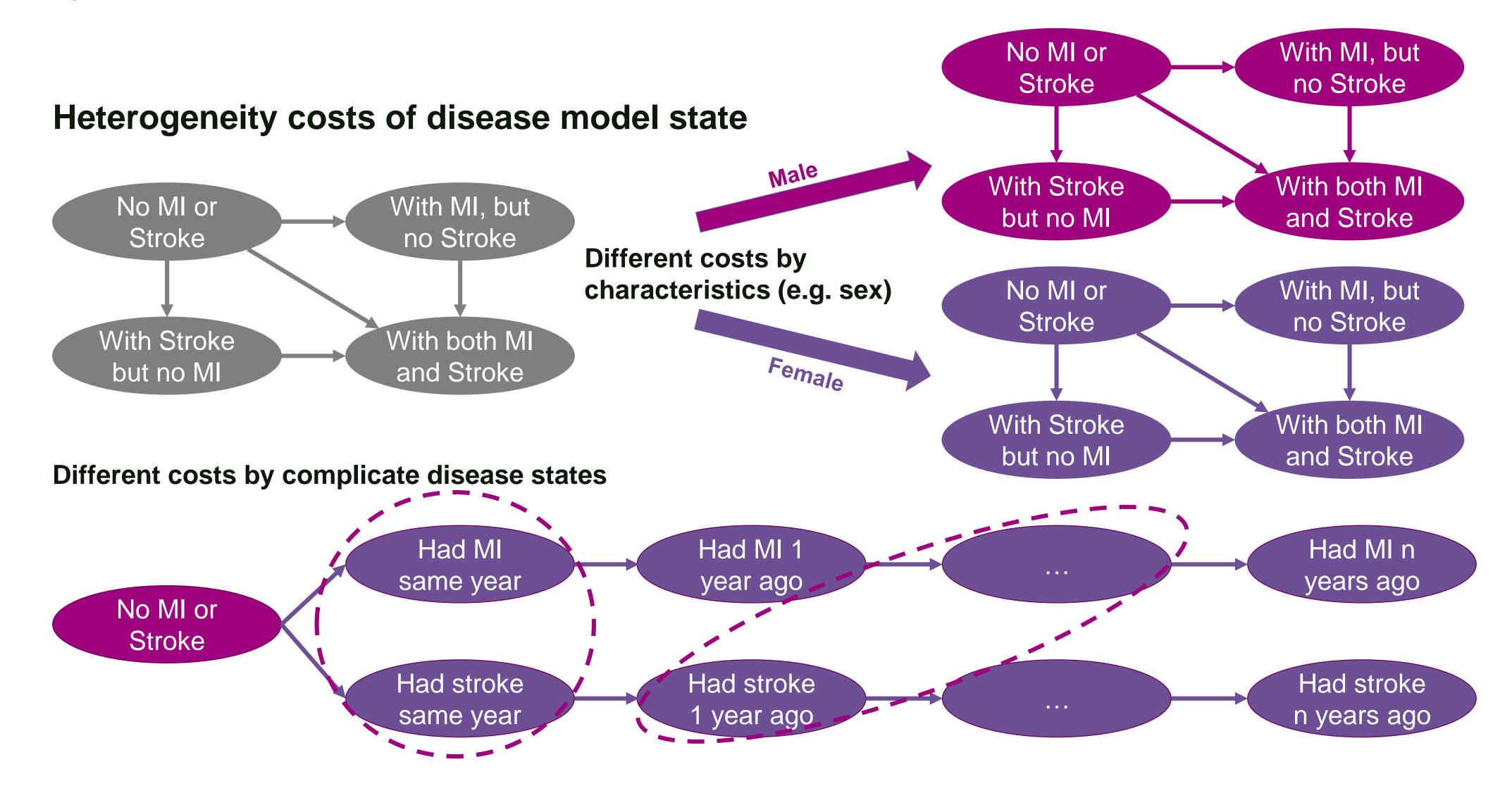
Presented by **Junwen Zhou**Senior Researcher in Health Economics
Health Economics Research Centre, University of Oxford junwen.zhou@ndph.ox.ac.uk
1 July 2024

**R for HTA 2024** 



### Additional information needed for economic evaluation





### Specifically, we estimate

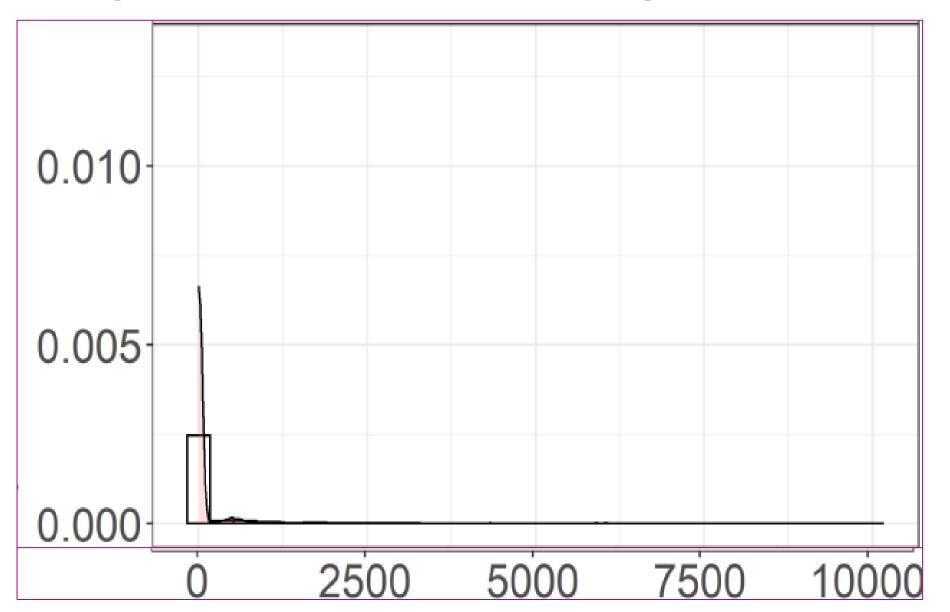
- costs over a fixed period
- associated with disease model state
- for an individual with specific characteristics

Patient ID	Year	Current aga	Sov	Disease state descriptor		Distinct disease state	
rauent 1D	1 cai	Current age	Sex	MI	Stroke	Distinct disease state	
1	1	50	Male	Without MI	Without stroke	Without MI and Without stroke	
1	2	51	Male	Without MI	Had stroke in same year	Without MI and Had stroke in same year	
1	3	52	Male	Had MI in same year	Had stroke 1 year ago	Had MI in same year and Had stroke 1 year ago	
1	4	53	Male	Had MI 1 year ago	Had stroke 2 years ago	Had MI 1 year ago and Had stroke 2 years ago	
1	5	54	Male	Had MI 2 years ago	Had stroke 3 years ago	Had MI 2 years ago and Had stroke 3 years ago	
2	1	45	Female	Without MI	Without stroke	Without MI and Without stroke	
2	2	46	Female	Without MI	Without stroke	Without MI and Without stroke	
2	3	47	Female	Without MI	Without stroke	Without MI and Without stroke	
2	4	48	Female	Without MI	Without stroke	Without MI and Without stroke	
2	5	49	Female	Had MI in same year	Without stroke	Had MI in same year and Without stroke	

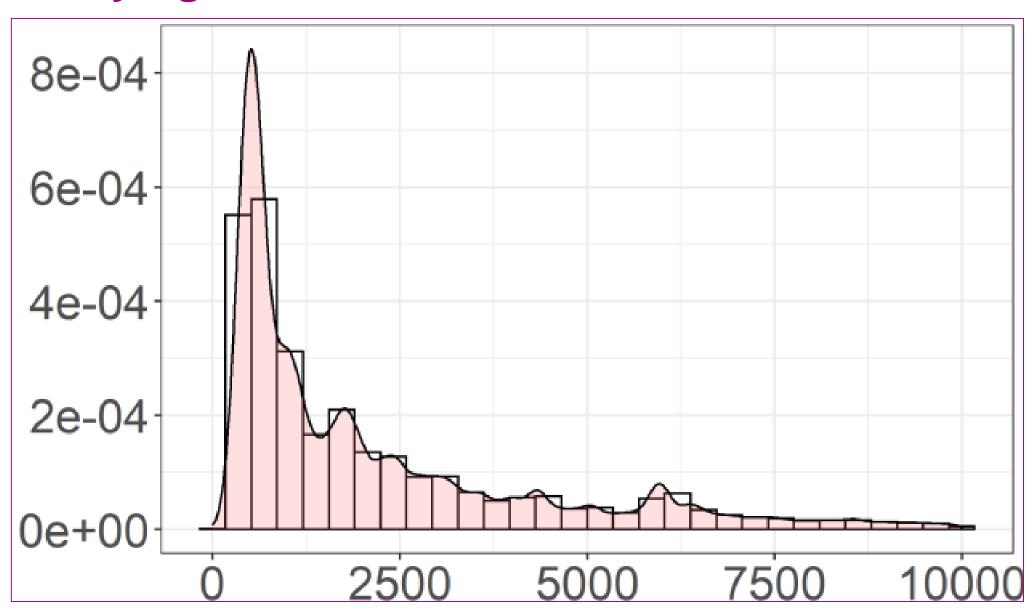
MI, myocardial infarction

#### Features of cost data

#### A large number of zero cost (e.g. hospital costs)



#### Heavy right-hand tailed distribution



# **Background Estimating costs using Generalized Linear Model (GLM)**

### General recommendation on estimating costs

- simple methods when having large datasets
- address a small number of key data issue with smaller datasets

#### **Features of GLM framework**

- Address linearity issue between linear predictor and dependent variable
  - by fitting a link function between the linear predictor and outcome
- Accommodate the skewness in the distribution of the residual error
  - by fitting a variance function

### **Key Steps of Statistical Modelling of Costs Associated with Disease Model State**

### 1. Preparing the dataset for estimating costs of disease states

- Raw dataset generation
- Handling censored and missing data
- Covariate specification

#### 2. Candidate statistical models

- Common candidate statistical models
- Initial set of covariates
- Tests to choose statistical model specification

### 3. Selecting the final model

- Covariate selection
- Final model selection
- Consideration of interactions

#### 4. Use of the cost model

- Cost prediction given individual's characteristics
- Effect of a disease state on costs

# Illustrative Example - Modelling Hospital Costs Associated with Cardiovascular Events Using R

### Research question

- costs over a fixed period: annual hospital care costs
- associated with disease model state: associated with cardiovascular and mortality event
  - Myocardial infarction (MI): none, year of event, 1, 2, ≥3 years after event
  - Stroke: none, year of event, 1, 2, ≥3 years after event
  - Vascular death (VD): none, year of event
  - Non-vascular death (NVD): none, year of event
- for an individual with specific characteristics: a wide range of people without previous CVD

#### Data used for the illustration

- A synthetic analytical dataset
  - 10,000 participants each with
  - 10 annual periods with columns
    - Response (costs in the year)
    - Covariates (state, characteristics)

Dationt ID	V	Comment	Com	Disease st	ate descriptor	Distinct disease state
Patient ID	Year	Current age	Sex	MI	Stroke	Distinct disease state
1	1	50	Male	Without MI	Without stroke	Without MI and Without stroke
1	2	51	Male	Without MI	Had stroke in same year	Without MI and Had stroke in same year
1	3	52	Male	Had MI in same year	Had stroke 1 year ago	Had MI in same year and Had stroke 1 year ag
1	4	53	Male	Had MI 1 year ago	Had stroke 2 years ago	Had MI 1 year ago and Had stroke 2 years ago
1	5	54	Male	Had MI 2 years ago	Had stroke 3 years ago	Had MI 2 years ago and Had stroke 3 years ago
2	1	45	Female	Without MI	Without stroke	Without MI and Without stroke
2	2	46	Female	Without MI	Without stroke	Without MI and Without stroke
2	3	47	Female	Without MI	Without stroke	Without MI and Without stroke
2	4	48	Female	Without MI	Without stroke	Without MI and Without stroke
2	5	49	Female	Had MI in same year	Without stroke	Had MI in same year and Without stroke

# Illustrative Example Step 1. Preparation of dataset – Covariate specification

### Specify covariates to improve performance

- Continuous covariates: functional form
  - Known relationship: Z,  $\ln(Z)$ ,  $\sqrt{Z}$
  - Complex: spline, polynomial, categorization
- Discrete covariates: category combination

### Specify covariates to facilitate interpretation

- Continuous covariate: standardize
- Discrete covariate: set reference level

tp1 <- dat %>%
mutate(
# Standardardize continuous covariate
$cur\_age = (cur\_age - 60) / 10,$
dl = (dl - 3.6) / 1,
hdl = log(hdl),
# Set reference level for discrete covariate
male = factor(male, level = $c("0", "1")$ ),
<pre>race = factor(race, level = c("white", "black", "asian", "other")),</pre>
townsend = factor(townsend, level = $str_c("q", c(3,1,2,4,5))$ ),
<pre>bmi = factor(bmi, level = c("normal","underweight","overweight",</pre>
"obesity1", "obesity2", "obesity3"))

Occeptatos	Raw da	taset	Analytical dat	aset
Covariates	Specification	Values	New specification	Values
Age (years)	Z	56 (8)	(Z – 60)/10	-0.4 (0.8)
LDL-C (mmol/L)	Z	3.6 (0.8)	(Z - 3.6) / 1	0 (0.8)
HDL-C (mmol/L)	Z	1.5 (0.4)	Ln(Z)	0.4 (0.3)
Sex	Female	5635 (56.4)	Female (Ref)	-
	Male	4365 (43.6)	Male	-
Ethnicity	White	9464 (94.6)	White (Ref)	-
	Black	179 (1.8)	Black	-
	South Asian	165 (1.7)	South Asian	-
	Others	192 (1.9)	Others	-
Townsend	Quintile 1	3712 (37.1)	Quintile 1	-
deprivation score,	Quintile 2	1947 (19.5)	Quintile 2	-
categorized into	Quintile 3	1701 (17)	Quintile 3 (Ref)	-
quintiles (Quintile	Quintile 4	1449 (14.5)	Quintile 4	-
1: least deprived)	Quintile 5	1191 (11.9)	Quintile 5	-
Body mass index	<18.5	53 (0.5)	<18.5	-
(BMI, kg/m²),	≥18.5, <25	3295 (33)	≥18.5, <25 (Ref)	-
categorized	≥25, <30	4334 (43.3)	≥25, <30	-
	≥30, <35	1682 (16.8)	≥30, <35	-
	≥35, <40	449 (4.5)	≥35, <40	-
	≥40	187 (1.9)	≥40	-

# Illustrative Example Step 2. Candidate statistical models

### Six two-part models

- First-part modelling the probability of incurring any costs
  - Same for all: Logistic regression
- Second-part modelling the costs conditional on any costs incurring
  - Six common GLMs
  - Gaussian-Identity, Gaussian-Log, Poisson-Identity, Poisson-Log, Gamma-Identity, Gamma-Log

### One one-part model

Gaussian-Identity GLM

```
Select the records with positive cost outcome for the part 2 model
ana <- dat %>% filter(cost > 0)
 Define the formula: outcome ~ covariate
var_y <- "cost"
var_x <- c("male", "race", "townsend", "smoke", "pa", "unhealthy_diet",</pre>
           "bmi", "ldl", "hdl", "creatinine", "sbp", "dbp", "atht", "db",
           "cancer", "mental", "cur_age",
           "mi", "stroke", "vd", "nvd")
form <- as.formula(str_c(var_y, "~", str_c(var_x, collapse = " + ")))</pre>
  Define the candidate GLMs
list_test <- list(gau_id = gaussian("identity"), gau_log = gaussian("log");</pre>
                  poi_id = poisson("identity"), poi_log = poisson("log"),
                   gam_id = Gamma("identity"), gam_log = Gamma("log"))
name_test <- "gau_id"</pre>
mod <- glm(data = ana, formula = form,</pre>
           family = list_test[[name_test]])
```

# Illustrative Example Step 2. Candidate statistical models – Specification test

### Specification tests to choose promising candidate models

- Tests for link function
  - Hosmer-Lemeshow test: P<0.05 improper link</li>
  - Pregibon's test: P<0.05 improper link</li>
- Test for variance function
  - Modified Park's tests
    - Slope indicate proper distribution
    - 0: Gaussian; 1: Poisson; 2: Gamma; 3: Inverse Gaussian

```
Table 1 Model specification tests for the second part of the candidate
two-part model
                 Slope from
                                 p value from
                                                  p value from
GLM model
                 modified Park's
                                 Hosmer-Leme-
                                                  Pregibon's test
(Distribution-
                                 show test
Link)
                 test
Gaussian-Iden-
                                                  0.91
                1.97
                                 0.12
  tity
Gaussian-LOG
                                 0.04
                                                  0.74
                 1.96
Poisson–Identity 1.98
                                 0.59
                                                  0.91
Poisson-LOG
                 2.00
                                 0.22
                                                  0.35
Gamma–Identity 1.98
                                 0.83
                                                  0.99
Gamma–LOG
                 1.99
                                 0.67
                                                  0.45
GLM generalized linear model
```

# Illustrative Example Step 3. Model selection – Covariate selection

### Select the covariates reliably predicting response (example using stepwise backward selection)

```
Perform selection
var_id <- "id"
rst <- f_glm_select_cov(mod, var_id, 0.05, 0.05)
f_glm_select_cov <- function(mod, cluster,</pre>
                               pval.in,
                               pval.out, x.fix = NULL,
                               opt_detail = FALSE){
  mod_data <- mod$data</pre>
  mod_family <- mod$family</pre>
  mod_y <- names (mod$model[1])</pre>
  # Generate terms per covariate
  mod_x <- attr(mod$terms , "term.labels")</pre>
  mod_x.fct_lv <- map_df(mod$xlevels,</pre>
                           \sim tibble(lv = .x),
                           .id = "x"
  mod_x_lv <- left_join(tibble(x = mod_x),</pre>
                          mod_x.fct_lv,
  mod_x_term <- mod_x_lv %>%
    mutate(term = if_else(is.na(lv), x, str_c(x, lv)))
This is just a small part of the code
```

Model	Two-part model—Part 1		Two-part model—Part 2 GLM				One-part GLM		
	Logistic regression		Gamma-Identity		Gamma–Log		Gaussian-Identity		
Selected	covariates						_		
	Age, sex, prior diabetes, M NVD	I, stroke,	Age, sex, systolic blood pro MI, stroke, VD, NVD	essure,	Age, sex, systolic blood pro MI, stroke, VD, NVD	essure,	Age, sex, antihypertensive MI, stroke, NVD	treated,	
Covaria	te selection process								
Step	Covariate to be dropped <sup>a</sup>	p value	Covariate to be dropped <sup>a</sup>	p value	Covariate to be dropped <sup>a</sup>	p-Value	Covariate to be dropped <sup>a</sup>	p value	
1	Severe mental illness	0.96	Diet quality	0.87	Diet quality	0.98	Smoking status	0.93	
2	VD	0.95	Diastolic blood pressure	0.81	Diastolic blood pressure	0.93	Severe mental illness	0.87	
3	Systolic blood pressure	0.88	Townsend score	0.79	LDL cholesterol	0.90	HDL cholesterol	0.79	
4	HDL cholesterol	0.69	LDL cholesterol	0.81	Severe mental illness	0.81	Diet quality	0.73	
5	Smoking status	0.67	Severe mental illness	0.72	Townsend score	0.71	Serum creatinine	0.62	
6	Diet quality	0.59	Serum creatinine	0.64	Serum creatinine	0.67	Prior cancer	0.48	
7	Physical activity	0.55	HDL cholesterol	0.61	HDL cholesterol	0.57	Physical activity	0.46	
8	Diastolic blood pressure	0.50	Antihypertensive treated	0.58	Antihypertensive treated	0.44	Diastolic blood pressure	0.42	
9	Serum creatinine	0.46	Smoking status	0.48	Smoking status	0.44	Systolic blood pressure	0.39	
10	Ethnicity	0.41	Prior diabetes	0.33	Prior diabetes	0.35	LDL cholesterol	0.39	
11	LDL cholesterol	0.31	Physical activity	0.22	Physical activity	0.30	Ethnicity	0.39	
12	Townsend score	0.30	Ethnicity	0.21	Ethnicity	0.21	Townsend score	0.25	
13	Prior cancer	0.14	Body mass index	0.16	Body mass index	0.10	VD	0.14	
14	Body mass index	0.09	Prior cancer	0.09	Prior cancer	0.09	Body mass index	0.05	
15	Antihypertensive treated	0.06					Prior diabetes	0.06	

GLM generalized linear model, HDL high density lipoprotein, LDL low density lipoprotein, MI myocardial infarction, NVD non-vascular death VD vascular death

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>At each step, the previous dropped covariates were added back to the model one by one to test whether they should be added back, but in the illustrative example none was added back

# Illustrative Example Step 3. Model selection – Performance tests

### Model performance tests to check how well the model fit the data

- Mean error
- Mean absolute error
- Root squared mean error

Candidate model	Model specification test				Model performance test		
	Modified Park's test	Hosmer-Leme- show test	Pregibon's test	ME	MAE	RSME	
Second part of the pro	omising candidate	two-part model					
Gamma-Identity	2.00	0.22	0.96	0	856	1115	
Gamma-LOG	2.01	0.22	0.39	<b>-</b> 1	856	1122	
Selected one-part and	two-part models						
One-part using Gaus	ssian-Identity GL	M		0	458	826	
Two-part (Part 1: los	gistic regression:	ic regression; Part 2: Gamma–Identity)				825	

GLM generalized linear model, ME mean error, MAE mean absolute error, RMSE root mean squared error

# Illustrative Example Step 3. Model selection – Final selected model

#### **Tabulate model coefficients**

Table 4 Annual hospital care co	osts (£) model: two-part model (part 1: log	ristic regression; part 2: generalized linea	r model with Gamma distribu-
Covariate	Category	Part 1: Probability of incurring cost OR (95% CIs)	Part 2: Cost, if any incurred Mean (95% CIs)
Intercent <sup>a</sup>		0.13 (0.12-0.13)	2177 (2152–2201)

Intercept <sup>a</sup>		0.13 (0.12-0.13)	2177 (2152–2201)
Baseline characteristics			
Sex (ref: female)	Male	0.93 (0.9-0.97)	−81 (−118 to −45)
Systolic blood pressure (centred at 140; per 20 mmHg)		b	22 (3–41)
Prior diabetes (ref: no)	Yes	1.11 (1.01-1.22)	b
Time-updated characteristics			
Current age (centred at 60; per 10 years)		1.37 (1.34–1.4)	158 (136–179)
Myocardial infarction (ref: no)	Same year	36.83 (24.07-56.37)	3421 (2949-3893)
	1 year ago	2.04 (1.34-3.11)	841 (323-1359)
	2 years ago	1.87 (1.17-2.97)	332 (-125 to 789)
	≥3 years ago	1.34 (1.01–1.77)	372 (87–657)
Stroke (ref: no)	Same year	38.7 (24.72-60.59)	4697 (4059–5335)
	1 year ago	2.87 (1.91-4.31)	1995 (1377–2612)
	2 years ago	2.26 (1.42-3.58)	488 (16–961)
	≥3 years ago	1.62 (1.28-2.05)	924 (635–1213)
Vascular death ( $ref = no$ )	Yes	b	4786 (2639–6933)
Non-vascular death (ref = no)	Yes	9.56 (7.44–12.29)	4984 (4502–5466)

### Illustrative Example Step 4. Use of developed model – Individual prediction

### Prepare the profiles of the individual as the model input

A 50-year old female, with a SBP of 120 mmHg, diagnosed with diabetes, had a MI in the year, a stroke 1 year ago, without other incident cardiovascular or other events modelled

```
Individual profiles
                                                                  Prepare individual profiles as the model input
                                                                ana <- dat %>% transmute("(Intercept)" = 1,
dat <- tibble(age = 50,
              male = 0,
              sbp = 120,
              db = 1,
                                                Prepare profiles
              mi = 1,
              stroke = 2,
              vd = 0,
              nvd = 0
  for the disease state descriptor (e.g. MI)
  > 1: same year of event
    2: one year after event
    3: two years after event
      to more: same pattern as above
```

### stroke4 = ifelse(stroke >= 4, 1, 0), vd1 = ifelse(vd == 1, 1, 0),

#### Use the models to calculate the costs

- Part 1 probability of any costs in the year = 0.92
- Part 2 costs conditional on any incurring = 7413
- Predicted costs =  $0.92 \times 7413 = 6783$

```
nvd1 = ifelse(nvd == 1, 1, 0)) \% \times as.matrix()
rst_p1_odd <- exp(coef_p1 %*% ana[,names(coef_p1)]
|rst_p1_prob <- rst_p1_odd / (rst_p1_odd + 1)
# Predict part 2
rst_p2 <- coef_p2 %*% ana[, names(coef_p2)]
 # Final predicted costs
rst <- rst_p1_prob * rst_p2
```

male1 = ifelse(male == 1, 1, 0),

sbp = (sbp - 140) / 20,

db1 = ifelse(db == 1, 1, 0),

mi1 = ifelse(mi == 1, 1, 0),

mi2 = ifelse(mi == 2, 1, 0),

mi3 = ifelse(mi == 3, 1, 0),

mi4 = ifelse(mi >= 4, 1, 0),

stroke1 = ifelse(stroke == 1, 1, 0),

stroke2 = ifelse(stroke == 2, 1, 0),

stroke3 = ifelse(stroke == 3, 1, 0),

 $cur_age = (age - 60) / 10,$ 

# Illustrative Example Step 4. Use of developed model – Marginal effect estimation

### Marginal effect, or average costs associated with disease model state

Mean A – Mean B (A assumes all have the condition; B assumes none has the condition)

```
f_pred_2pcost_byevt <- function(mod_p1, mod_p2, dat, evt, lv){
    # Set baseline and event to target level
    if(evt == "vd"){         dat <- dat %>% mutate(nvd = "0")
    } else if(evt == "nvd"){         dat <- dat %>% mutate(vd = "0") }

# Set event to target level
    dat <- dat %>% mutate_at(evt,~lv)

# Part1
    rst_p1 <- predict(mod_p1, newdata = dat, type = "response")

# Part 2
    rst_p2 <- predict(mod_p2, newdata = dat, type = "response")

# Final
    rst <- rst_p1 * rst_p2
    return(rst)
</pre>
```

```
tp1 <- map_df(
  evt_list %>% set_names(),
  function(evt) {
    evt_lv <- evt_list_lv[[evt]]
    rst <- map(
      evt_lv %>% set_names(),
      ~f_pred_2pcost_byevt(mod_p1, mod_p2, mod_data, evt, .x))
    output <- map_df(
      rst[2:length(rst)],
      ~tibble(me.mean = round(mean(.x - rst[[1]]),0)), .id = "lv")
    return(output) },
    .id = "evt")</pre>
```

vascular events and non-vascular death					
Event (Ref = no)	Year since event	Marginal effect (95% CIs)			
Myocardial infarction	Same year	4326 (3801–4851)			
	1 year ago	382 (149-615)			
	2 years ago	240 (34–446)			
	≥3 years ago	128 (28–228)			
Stroke	Same year	5417 (4749-6085)			
	1 year ago	876 (515–1237)			
	2 years ago	353 (106-600)			
	≥3 years ago	290 (170-410)			
Vascular death	Yes	559 (247-871)			
Non-vascular death	Yes	3658 (3154–4162)			

Table 5 Excess annual hospital care costs (£) associated with cardio-

# Further Information Published tutorial paper

### **Key Steps of Statistical Modelling of Costs Associated with Disease Model State**

- 1. Preparing the dataset for estimating costs of disease states
- Raw dataset generation
- Handling censored and missing data
- Covariate specification

#### 2. Candidate statistical models

- Common candidate statistical models
- Initial set of covariates
- Tests to choose statistical model specification

#### 3. Selecting the final model

- Covariate selection
- Final model selection
- Consideration of interactions

#### 4. Use of the cost model

- Cost prediction given individual's characteristics
- Effect of a disease state on costs



Step 0. Generation of synthetic dataset\* (CodeS1)

Step 1. Preparation of dataset

Specify covariates (CodeS2) [Table S1]

Step 2. Candidate statistical model

Construct candidate statistical models with initial set of convariate (CodeS3)

Perform test to select promising candidate models (CodeS4) [Table 1]

Step 3. Model selection

Covariate selection for promising models (CodeS5) [Table 2, Table S2]

Test for selection within one-part and two-part model respectively (CodeS6) [Table 3, Fig. 3a]

Test for selection between one-part and two-part model (CodeS7) [Table 3, Fig. 3b, Table 4]

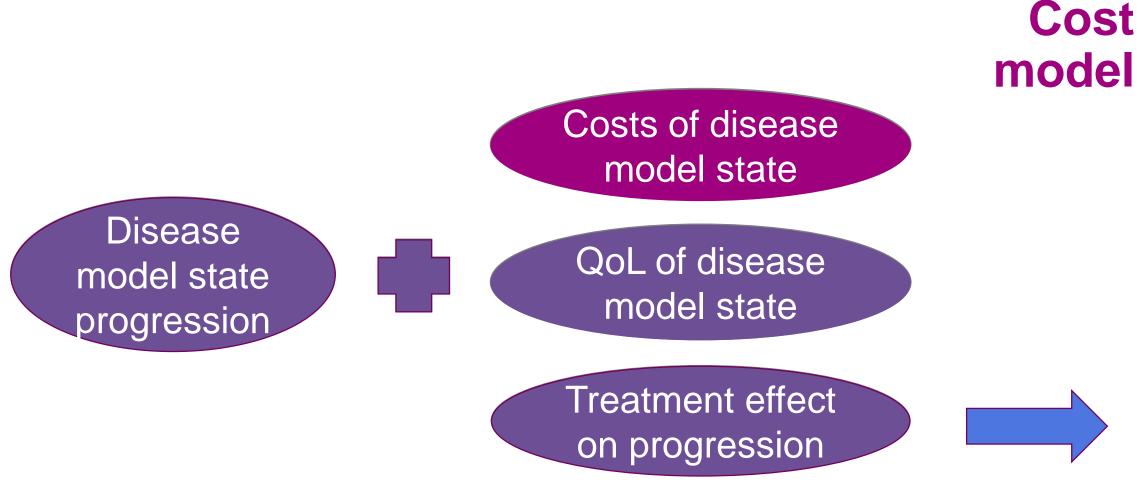
Step 4. Use of developed model

Predict cost for individual (CodeS8) [Fig.4]

Estimate marginal effect of a disease state (CodeS9) [Table 5]

R CodeS1_step0_create_synthetic_dataset.r	R File
CodeS2_step1_specify_covariate.r	R File
CodeS3_step2_construct_candidate_statistical_mod	R File
CodeS4_step2_select_promising_candidate_models.r	R File
■ CodeS5_step3_select_covariates.r	R File
CodeS6_step3_select_final_op_and_tp_model.r	R File
CodeS7_step3_select_op_or_tp_model.r	R File
CodeS8_step4_predict_individual_costs.r	R File
■ CodeS9_step4_estimate_marginal_effect.r	R File

# Further Information Cost model supporting economic evaluation



### Microsimulation & QoL model, treatment effect



Prediction Models for Individual – Level
Healthcare Costs Associated with
Cardiovascular Events in the UK

Original Research Article | Open access | Published: 23 February 2023

Volume 41, pages 547–559, (2023) Cite this article

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PharmacoEconomics

Aims and scope →
Submit manuscript →

https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40273-022-01219-6

#### **Economic evaluation of intervention**

Junwen Zhou, Runguo Wu, Claire Williams, Jonathan Emberson, Christina Reith, Anthony Keech, John

Robson, Kenneth Wilkinson, Jane Armitage, Alastair Gray, John Simes, Colin Baigent & Borislava

Total costs and QALYs under intervention and control

Use our pre-submission che

Avoid common mistakes on v

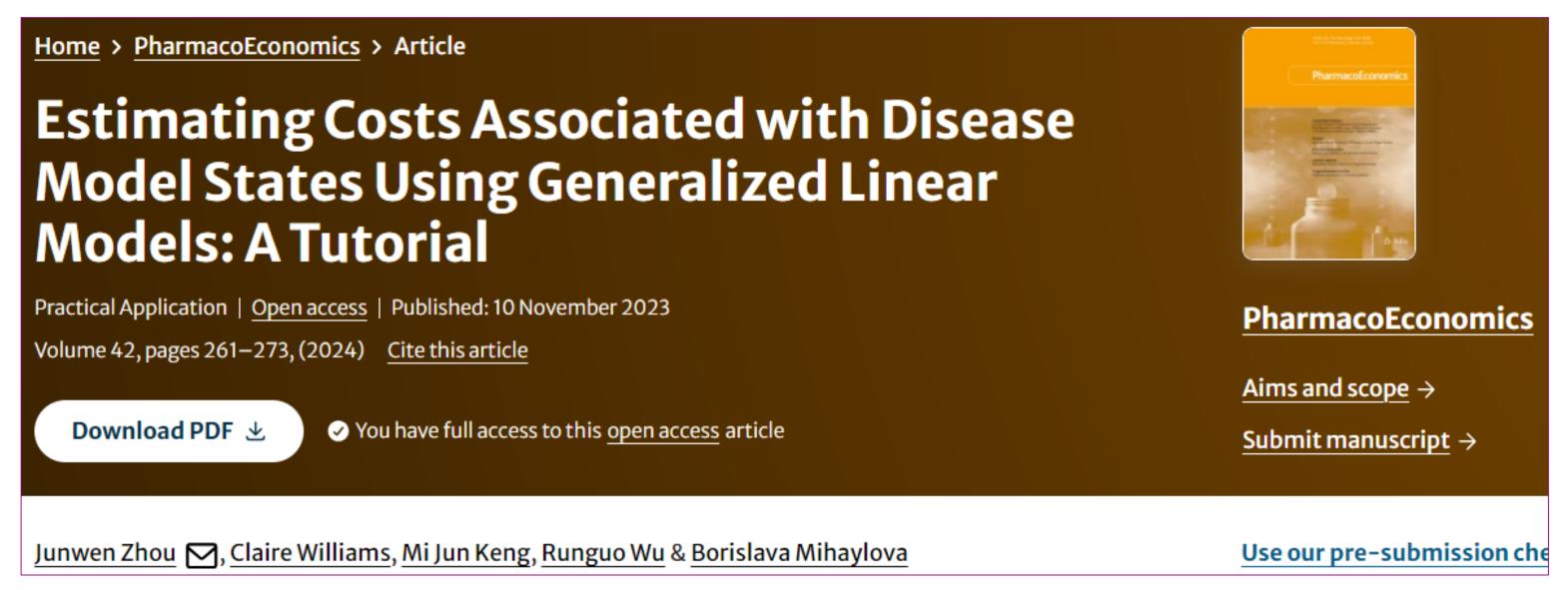
Increment cost per QALY gained by the intervention



https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lanepe.2024.100887

### Final Remarks

Hope it is a useful starting point for researchers who plan to conduct costing analyses



https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40273-023-01319-x

Looking forward to more and more costing studies published to support HTA activities

