Survival Analysis of the Mayo Clinic Primary Biliary Cirrhosis Data

Project Carried out by

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Course: Event History Analysis

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Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
METHODS AND RESULTS	
Kaplan-Meier: The Kaplan-Meier estimates was carried out for the full and clinical trial datasets and the results are seen as follows:	
Full Data Set	. 8
Clinical Trial	. 8

INTRODUCTION

The liver is an organ that is located on the upper right belly. It is a crucial organ, which supports metabolism and engages in secretory functions. The liver is reddish-brown, and is about the size of a football, below the ribcage.

The liver supports immunity, digestion, detoxification, metabolism, vitamin storage, bile production and a host of other functions. The liver is about 2% of an adult body's weight.

The liver is sometimes plagued with some diseases. Some common diseases that the liver is prone to are hepatitis, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, liver cancer, primary biliary cirrhosis (pbc) etc. The focus of this analysis involves the survival analysis of patients with primary biliary cirrhosis (pbc).

Primary biliary cirrhosis (pbc) also known as primary biliary cholangitis is a liver disease that primarily affects the bile ducts. Biliary means bile ducts, cholangitis means inflammation in the bile ducts. This disease is a chronic and progressive one and can get worse over time. Liver transplant can fix this, but more so, there are drugs which can be used to slow down the progression of the disease.

This study explores the effects of the drug D-penicillmain, in PBC patients. The survival analysis of these patients.

Dataset Description

This data is from the Mayo Clinic trial in primary biliary cirrhosis (PBC) of the liver conducted between 1974 and 1984. A total of 424 PBC patients, referred to Mayo Clinic during that ten-year interval, met eligibility criteria for the randomized placebo-controlled trial of the drug D-penicillamine. The first 312 cases in the data set participated in the randomized trial and contain largely complete data. The additional 112 cases did not participate in the clinical trial but consented to have basic measurements recorded and to be followed for survival. Six of those cases were lost to follow-up shortly after diagnosis, so the data here are on an additional 106 cases as well as the 312 randomized participants.

Table 1 Dataset parameters and description

Parameter	Description			
-----------	-------------	--	--	--

age:	in years
albumin:	serum albumin (g/dl)
alk.phos:	alkaline phosphotase (U/liter)
ascites:	presence of ascites
ast:	aspartate aminotransferase, once called SGOT (U/ml)
bili:	serum bilirunbin (mg/dl)
chol:	serum cholesterol (mg/dl)
copper:	urine copper (ug/day)
edema:	0 no edema, 0.5 untreated or successfully treated
	1 edema despite diuretic therapy
hepato:	presence of hepatomegaly or enlarged liver
id:	case number
platelet:	platelet count
protime:	standardised blood clotting time
sex:	m/f
spiders:	blood vessel malformations in the skin
stage:	histologic stage of disease (needs biopsy)
status:	status at endpoint, 0/1/2 for censored, transplant, dead
	0 = censored;transplant
	1 = death
time:	number of days between registration and the earlier of death,
	transplantion, or study analysis in July, 1986
trt:	1/2/NA for D-penicillmain, placebo, not randomised
trig:	triglycerides (mg/dl)

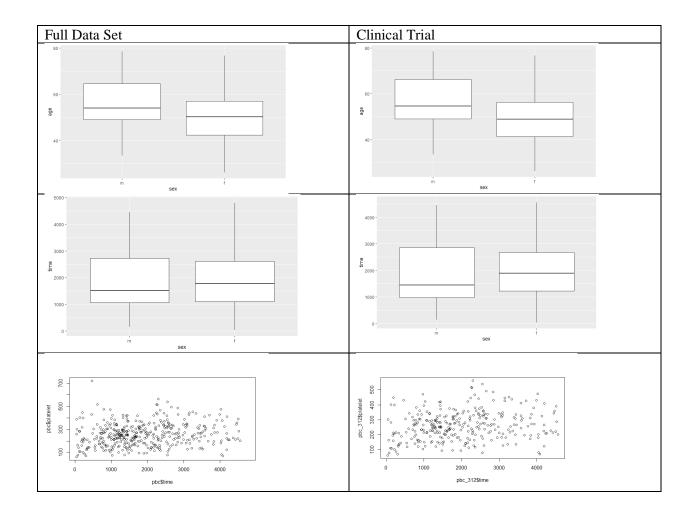
A new variable named AG is introduced. This is for the age. If age is less than 50 years, then AG = LT50, else age = OV50.

Descriptive Statistics

The picture below shows the descriptive Statistics of the dataset, and they

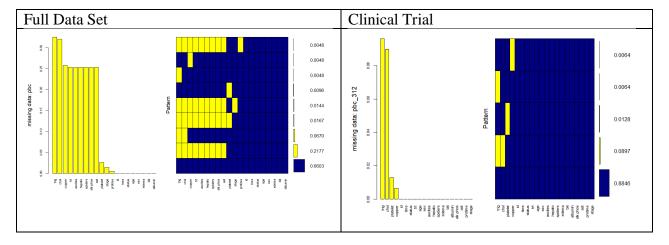
Full Dataset (418 Patients)

Partial Dataset (312 Patients – clinical trial)



Data Pre-processing

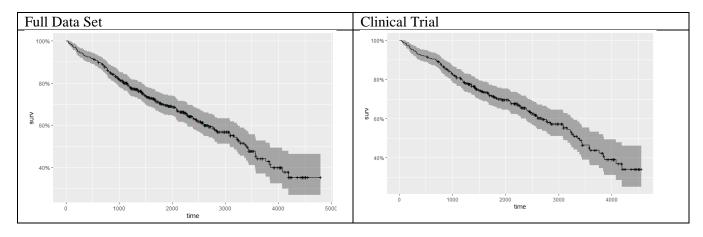
Some missing data was found. In the Full dataset, trt = NA is encoded to be 3 (non-randomised)



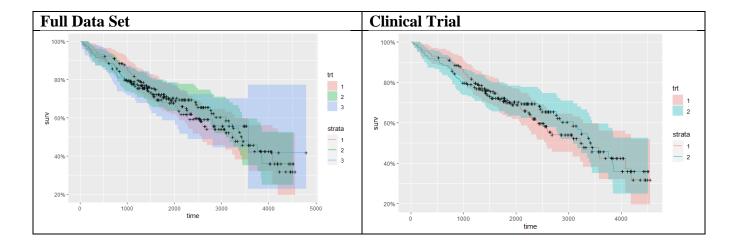
Mice package was used to input missing values using the predictive matching method, so as not to lose vital information via NAs.

METHODS AND RESULTS

Kaplan-Meier: The Kaplan-Meier estimates was carried out for the full and clinical trial datasets and the results are seen as follows:



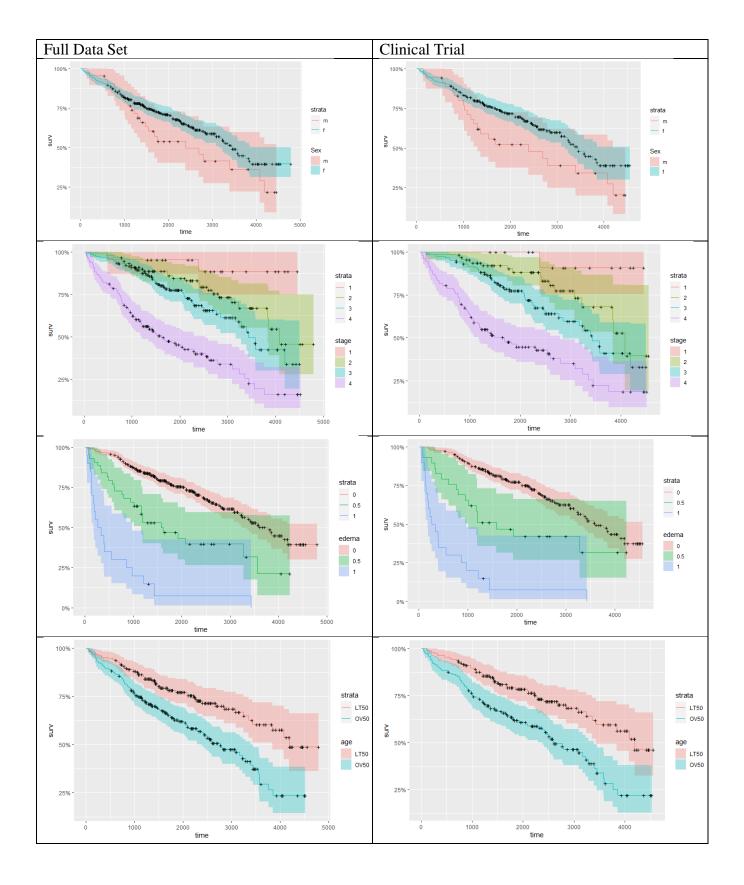
The figure above depicts the survival probabilities of the Full data set and the clinical trial patients. It is seen that the probability that a patient who participated in the clinical study will survive past 4750 days is 0%. This shows that patients who did not participate in the study have higher times.



It is seen that the survival probability for PBC patients that did not participate in the clinical trials (strata 3) is much higher than the survival times for the patients who participated in the trials (strata 1 and strata 2). Strata 3 PBC patients will survive past 4600 days at a probability of 40%, while none of the patients in the clinical trial survived past 4600 days.

Furthermore, there seem to be almost no effect of the clinical drug (D-penicillamine), as the survival curves of both the treatment (strata 1) and placebo (strata 2), are interchanging. Although, noticeably, from day 2000 of the trial, placebo pbc patients begin to have higher probabilities of survival than the treatment patients, almost up until day 3000. For instance, the probability of survival of a clinical trial patient to survive past 2500 days is 60% for the treatment patient, and approximately 67% for the placebo patient.

Towards the end of the curve, the probability of survival of a clinical trial patient to survive past 4500 days is approximately 32% for the treatment patient, and approximately 36% for the placebo patient. There is almost no effect of the drug, or it may have negative effects on PBC patients.



In the first row, it is seen that female pbc patients have a higher survival probability than male pbc patients. The curves for the male pbc patients drop faster, when compared to the females pbc curves.

In the second row, it is seen that stage 4 pbc patients have the least survival probabilities. In terms of their survival probabilities and times, Stage 1 > Stage 2 > Stage 3 > Stage 4. Stage 1 pbc patients have the best survival probabilities.

Edema is fluid retention/swelling by the body tissues. It is a phenomenon seen in pbc patients. Patients with no edema survive better than the patients (strata 0) with edema (strata 1, and 2). Strata 2 (edema, despite **diuretic therapy**¹) patients have the lowest survival rate.

There is a huge difference in the survival times for patients aged over 50, and those less than 50. PBC patients that are aged less than 50 have a higher chance of survival than those below 50 years.

Log Rank Test for some selected groups

Hypothesis:

 H_0 : There is no difference in the survival curves (for all time)

 H_1 : There is difference in the survival curves (for all time)

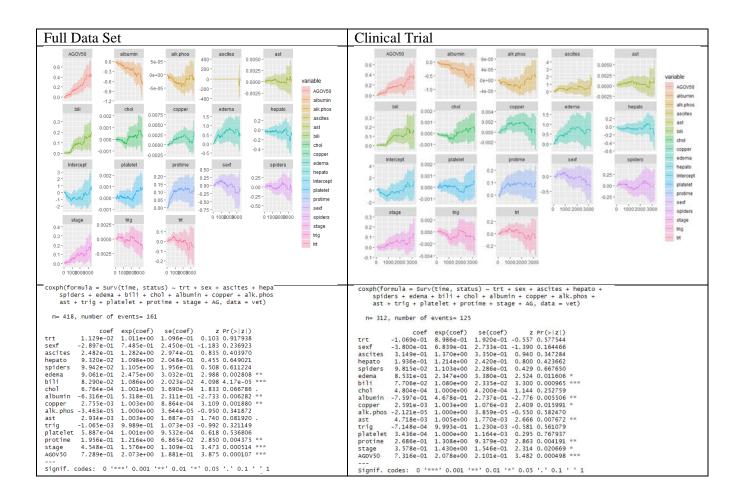
decision rule is to retain H_0 if p > 0.05, else H_0 is rejected.

Full Data Set (Log rank test)	Clinical Trial (log rank test)	Conclusion
Call: survdiff(formula = Surv(time, status) ~ trt, data = data)	Call: survdiff(formula = Surv(time, status) ~ trt, data = data)	p > 0.05, Ho is
N Observed Expected (O-E)^2/E (O-E)^2/V	N Observed Expected (O-E)^2/E (O-E)^2/V	retained. No
trt=1 158 65 64.0 0.0141 0.0235 trt=2 154 60 62.4 0.0892 0.1461	trt=1 158 65 63.2 0.0502 0.102 trt=2 154 60 61.8 0.0513 0.102	difference between
trt=3 106 36 34.6 0.0573 0.0737	Chisq= 0.1 on 1 degrees of freedom, p= 0.7	the curves for trt.
Chisq= 0.2 on 2 degrees of freedom, p= 0.9		
Call: survdiff(formula = Surv(time, status) ~ sex, data = data)	Call: survdiff(formula = Surv(time, status) ~ sex, data = data)	p < 0.05, Ho is
N Observed Expected (O-E)^2/E (O-E)^2/V	N Observed Expected (O-E)^2/E (O-E)^2/V	rejected. There is
sex=m 44 24 17.3 2.640 2.98 sex=f 374 137 143.7 0.317 2.98	sex=m 36 22 14.6 3.728 4.27 sex=f 276 103 110.4 0.494 4.27	difference between
Chisq= 3 on 1 degrees of freedom, p= 0.08	Chisq= 4.3 on 1 degrees of freedom, p= 0.04	the curves for sex .
survdiff(formula = Surv(time, status) ~ stage, data = data)	call: survdiff(formula = Surv(time, status) ~ stage, data = data)	p < 0.05, Ho is
N Observed Expected (O-E)^2/E (O-E)^2/V stage=1 22 2 12.4 8.76 9.60	N Observed Expected (O-E)^2/E (O-E)^2/V	rejected. There is
stage=2 93 24 44.7 9.56 13.39	stage=1 16	· ·
stage=3 157 49 62.4 2.89 4.74 stage=4 146 86 41.5 47.81 65.48	stage=3 120 43 51.2 1.30 2.22	difference between
stage=4 146 86 41.5 47.81 65.48 Chisq= 70.6 on 3 degrees of freedom, p= 3e-15	stage=4 109 65 31.6 35.17 47.84 Chisq= 53.8 on 3 degrees of freedom, p= 1e-11	the curves for stage .

¹ Diuretic drugs are widely used for the treatment of patients with edema. (Source: https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/nejm199808063390607)

Call: survdiff(formula = Surv(time, status) ~ edema, data = data)	Call: survdiff(formula = Surv(time, status) ~ edema, data = data)	p < 0.05, Ho is
N Observed Expected (O-E)^2/E (O-E)^2/V	N Observed Expected (O-E)^2/E (O-E)^2/V	rejected. There is
edema=0 354 116 145.47 5.97 62.3 edema=0.5 44 26 13.05 12.84 14.0	edema=0 263 89 113.38 5.24 56.76 edema=0.5 29 17 9.20 6.61 7.15	difference between the
edema=1 20 19 2.47 110.44 113.1	edema=1 20 19 2.42 113.48 117.00	curves for sex edema
Chisq= 131 on 2 degrees of freedom, p= <2e-16	Chisq= 127 on 2 degrees of freedom, p= <2e-16	
call: survdiff(formula = Surv(time, status) ~ AG, data = vet)	call: survdiff(formula = Surv(time, status) ~ AG, data = vet)	p < 0.05, Ho is
N Observed Expected (O-E)^2/E (O-E)^2/V	N Observed Expected (0-E)^2/E (0-E)^2/V AG=LT50 158	rejected. There is
AG=LT50 195 55 81.4 8.56 17.5 AG=0V50 223 106 79.6 8.75 17.5	AG=0V50 154 79 56.3 9.16 16.8	difference between
Chisq= 17.5 on 1 degrees of freedom, p= 3e-05	Chisq= 16.8 on 1 degrees of freedom, p= 4e-05	the curves for AG

Cox PH Model



	exp(coef)	exp(-coef)	lower .95	upper .95		exp(coef)	exp(-coef)	lower .95	upper .95	_
trt	1.0114	0.9888	0.8159	1.2536	trt	0.8986				
sexf	0.7485	1.3360	0.4631	1.2097	sexf	0.6839	1.4623	0.4002	1.1685	
ascites	1.2817	0.7802	0.7156	2.2956	ascites	1.3701	0.7299	0.7105	2.6420	
hepato	1.0977	0.9110	0.7348	1.6398	hepato	1.2136	0.8240	0.7553	1.9503	
spiders	1.1045	0.9054	0.7528	1.6205	spiders	1.1031	0.9065	0.7048	1.7266	
edema	2.4747	0.4041	1.3658	4.4837	edema	2.3468	0.4261	1.2100	4.5517	
bili	1.0864	0.9204	1.0442	1.1304	bili	1.0801	0.9258	1.0318	1.1307	
cho1	1.0007	0.9993	1.0000	1.0014	cho1	1.0005	0.9995	0.9997	1.0013	
albumin	0.5318	1.8805	0.3381	0.8365	albumin	0.4678	2.1377	0.2736	0.7999	
copper	1.0028		1.0010	1.0045	copper	1.0026	0.9974	1.0005	1.0047	
alk.phos	1.0000	1.0000	0.9999	1.0000	alk. phos	1.0000	1.0000	0.9999	1.0001	
ast	1.0029	0.9971	0.9996	1.0063	ast	1.0047	0.9953	1.0013	1.0082	
trig	0.9989	1.0011	0.9968	1.0010	trig	0.9993	1.0007	0.9969	1.0017	
platelet	1.0006	0.9994	0.9987	1.0025	platelet	1.0003	0.9997	0.9981	1.0026	
protime	1.2161	0.8223	1.0630	1.3912	protime	1.3081	0.7645	1.0884	1.5720	
stage	1.5759	0.6346	1.2192	2.0369	stage	1.4301	0.6992	1.0563	1.9363	
AGOV50	2.0727	0.4825	1.4337	2.9967	AGOV50	2.0783	0.4812	1.3768	3.1373	
Concordar	nce= 0.838	(se = 0.01	.5)		Concorda	nce= 0.858	(se = 0.0)	16)		
Likelihoo	d ratio te	est= 231.3	on 17 df,	p=<2e-16			est= 203.7		p=<2e-16	
Wald test		= 245.7	on 17 df,	p=<2e-16		t		on 17 df,		
Score (10	ogrank) tes	st = 359.4	on 17 df,	p=<2e-16			st = 335.4			

Hazard increasing over time: AGOV50, ascites, bili, edema, platelet, protime, stage.

Hazard decreasing over time: albumin, sexf,

While the rest variables have little or no changes/impact on the survival over time.

Patients aged over 50, with edema and high ascites have the biggest NEGATIVE impact on the survival of patients.

$$h(t,X) = h_o(t) \exp \left[\beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \dots + \beta_{16} X_{16} + \beta_{17} X_{17}\right]$$

Coef (βi): Full Data set

 $[1.011, 0.749, 1.282, 1.098, 1.105, 2.475, 1.086, 1.001, 0.532, 1.003, 1.000, 1.003, 0.999, 1.001, 1.216, 1.576, 2.073] = [\beta1, \dots, \beta17]$

Coef (βi): Full Data set

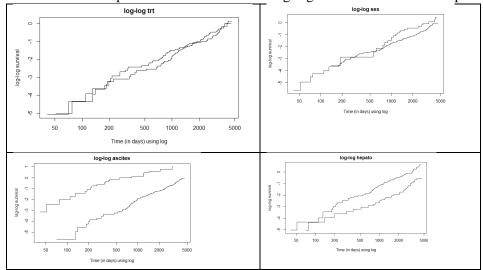
 $[0.8986, 0.6839, 1.3701, 1.2136, 1.1031, 2.3468, 1.0801, 1.0005, 0.4678, 1.0026, 1, 1.0047, 0.9993, 1.0003, 1.3081, \\ 1.4301, 2.0783] = [\beta 1, \dots, \beta 17]$

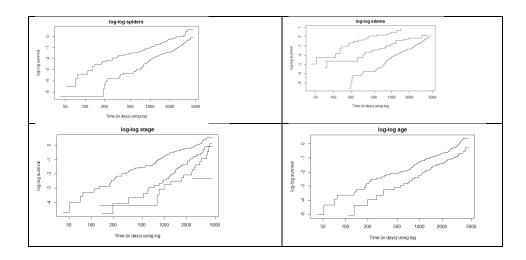
The PH assumption is that the Hazard Ratio (HR) is constant over time. To verify this, we use some methods: PH is violated when p < 0.05

1. Goodness of fit

Variables: edema (clinical trial), bili, chol, trig and protime all violate the PH assumption

2. Log-log plot proportional hazards assumption is violated when the log-log survival curves are not parallel.





Parametric Models

```
Weibull Model
                    eibull Moucr
value Std. Error z
1.02e01 9.87e-01 10.32 < 2e-16
6.76e-02 1.15e-01 0.59 0.55563
1.65e-01 1.24 0.21643
                                                                                                                    Exponential Model
                                                                                                                          Value Std. Error
1.20e+01 1.54e+00
                                                                                                      (Intercept)
                                                                                                                                                          7.76 8.4e-15
  trt
                                                                                                     trt
sexf
                                                                                                                          6.44e-02
                                                                                                                                           1.87e-01
                                                                                                                                                         0.34
1.44
                                                                                                                                                                   0.7313
0.1491
  sexf
ascites
                                     1.65e-01
1.97e-01
                                                                                                                          3.80e-01
                                                                                                                                           2.63e-01
                     -2.73e-01
                                                   -1.39 0.16445
                                                                                                      ascites
                                                                                                                          -3.55e-01
                                                                                                                                           3.19e-01 -1.11
                                                                                                                                                                   0.2664
  hepato
                   -1.12e-01
                                     1.44e-01 -0.78 0.43631
                                                                                                                         -2.04e-01
                                                                                                                                           2.35e-01 -0.87
                                                                                                                                                                   0.3848
                                                                                                      hepato
                                     1.37e-01 -0.36 0.71849
1.96e-01 -2.77 0.00564
  spiders
                    -4.94e-02
                                                                                                      spiders
                                                                                                                         -1.26e-01
                                                                                                                                           2.23e-01 -0.57
                                                                                                                                                                   0.5715
                    -5.44e-01
  edema
                                                                                                                         -6.18e-01
                                                                                                                                           3.30e-01 -1.87
                                                                                                                                                                   0.0611
                                                                                                      edema
  bili.
                    -4.75e-02
-2.84e-04
                                     1.30e-02 -3.67 0.00024
                                                                                                      bili
                                                                                                                         -4.91e-02
                                                                                                                                           2.29e-02 -2.15
                                                                                                                                                                    0.0317
                                     2.48e-04
  cho1
                                                   -1.15 0.25178
                                                                                                                                           4.08e-04 -1.15
                                                                                                      cho1
                                                                                                                         -4.67e-04
                                                                                                                                                                   0.2520
  albumin
                     4 09e-01
                                     1 59e-01
                                                   2.57 0.01014
                                                                                                                         4.63e-01
-1.74e-03
                                                                                                                                           2.55e-01 1.82
1.02e-03 -1.70
                                                                                                      albumin
                                                                                                                                                                   0.0693
                     -1.65e-03
                                     6.38e-04
                                                   -2.58 0.00988
  copper
                                                                                                                                                                   0.0888
                                                                                                      copper
  alk.phos
                     6.11e-06
                                     2.29e-05
                                                   0.27 0.79012
                                                                                                      alk.phos
                                                                                                                         -2.97e-05
                                                                                                                                           3.71e-05 -0.80
                                                                                                                                                                   0.4235
                    -2.90e-03
8.04e-04
                                     1.07e-03
7.69e-04
                                                   -2.72 0.00662
                                                                                                                         -4.02e-03
                                                                                                                                           1.77e-03 -2.28
                                                                                                      ast
                                                                                                                                                                   0.0228
                                                   1.05 0.29576
  trig
                                                                                                      trig
                                                                                                                          7.39e-04
                                                                                                                                           1.36e-03 0.54
                                                                                                                                                                   0.5858
  platelet
                    -2.26e-04
                                     6.99e-04 -0.32 0.74603
                                                                                                      platelet
                                                                                                                          2.78e-04
                                                                                                                                           1.14e-03 0.24
  protime
                                      5.67e-02
                                                  -3.00 0.00271
                                                                                                                                                                   0.8067
                                                                                                                         -2.77e-01
-2.97e-01
                                                                                                      protime
                                                                                                                                           8.85e-02 -3.13
                                                                                                                                                                   0.0017
  stage
                    -2.22e-01
                                     9.26e-02 -2.40 0.01655
                   -4.38e-01
-5.10e-01
                                     1.28e-01 -3.42 0.00062
7.20e-02 -7.09 1.4e-12
                                                                                                                                           1.49e-01 -2.00
  AGOV50
                                                                                                      stage
                                                                                                                                                                   0.0455
                                                                                                                                           2.08e-01 -3.07
  Log(scale)
  scale= 0.6
                                                                                                      Scale fixed at 1
  weibull distribution
                                       Loglik(intercept only)= -1188.8
                                                                                                      Loglik(model)= -1103.7 Loglik(intercept only)= -1189.8 Chisq= 172.33 on 17 degrees of freedom, p= 9.7e-28
  Loglik(model)= -1083.7 Loglik(intercept only)= -1188.8
Chisq= 210.09 on 17 degrees of freedom, p= 2.7e-35
Lognormal Model
                                                                                                   Loglogistic Model
  value Std. Error
(Intercept) 1.08e+01 1.12e+00
                                                                                                                      Value Std. Error
9.73e+00 1.05e+00
                                                                                                                                                    z p
9.29 < 2e-16
-0.34 0.73677
1.62 0.10484
-2.05 0.04044
                                  1.12e+00 9.62 < 2e-16
1.26e-01 -0.37 0.71030
1.88e-01 1.36 0.17424
2.44e-01 -2.04 0.04132
                                                                                                     (Intercept)
                   -4.68e-02
2.56e-01
-4.97e-01
                                                                                                                                      1.22e-01
1.75e-01
2.35e-01
                                                                                                     trt
sexf
                                                                                                                      -4.11e-02
                                                                                                                      2.84e-01
-4.81e-01
  ascites
                                                                                                     ascites
 hepato
spiders
                   -1.02e-01
                                   1.48e-01
                                               -0.69 0.49068
                                                                                                     hepato
                                                                                                                      -1.25e-01
                                                                                                                                      1.41e-01
                                                                                                                                                    -0.89 0.37584
                                               -1.49 0.13691
-2.49 0.01285
-2.37 0.01794
                   -2.18e-01
-6.51e-01
                                   1.47e-01
2.62e-01
                                                                                                                      -1.60e-01
-5.05e-01
-3.86e-02
                                                                                                                                      1.42e-01
2.57e-01
1.63e-02
                                                                                                                                                    -1.12 0.26062
-1.96 0.04965
-2.36 0.01819
                                                                                                     spiders
 edema
bili
                                                                                                     edema
bili
                   -4.19e-02
                                   1.77e-02
                                   3.03e-04 -0.72 0.47182
  cho1
                   -2.18e-04
                                                                                                                                                    -0.79 0.42702
                                                                                                     cho1
                                                                                                                      -2.18e-04
                                                                                                                                      2.74e-04
                                   1.68e-01
7.79e-04
2.65e-05
  albumin
                   3.44e-01
-2.03e-03
                                               2.05 0.04034
-2.60 0.00922
                                                                                                                      4.87e-01
-2.42e-03
-2.44e-08
-2.73e-03
                                                                                                     albumin
                                                                                                                                      1 66e-01
                                                                                                                                                     2 94 0 00329
 copper
alk.phos
                                                                                                                                                    -3.38 0.00073
0.00 0.99925
-2.37 0.01759
                                                                                                     copper
alk.phos
                                                                                                                                      7.16e-04
2.60e-05
                                                -0.20 0.83927
                   -5.38e-06
  ast
                   -3 31e-03
                                   1 25e-03 -2 66 0 00791
                                                                                                     ast
                                                                                                                                      1.15e-03
 trig
platelet
                   7.26e-04
1.80e-04
                                   1.06e-03
7.16e-04
                                                0.69 0.49173
0.25 0.80113
                                                                                                                                      1.04e-03
6.97e-04
6.34e-02
                                                                                                                                                    0.72 0.46958
0.72 0.47451
-2.97 0.00300
                                                                                                    trig
platelet
                                                                                                                       7.54e-04
4.98e-04
                                  6.76e-02 -2.96 0.00309

9.35e-02 -2.64 0.00818

1.37e-01 -3.38 0.00073

6.51e-02 -2.74 0.00615
  protime
                   -2.00e-01
                                                                                                     protime
                                                                                                                      -1.88e-01
 stage
AGOV50
Log(scale)
                   -2.47e-01
                                                                                                     stage
                                                                                                                      -1.93e-01
                                                                                                                                      8.77e-02
                                                                                                                                                    -2.20 0.02754
                  -4.62e-01
-1.78e-01
                                                                                                     AGOV50
Log(scale)
                                                                                                                     -4.57e-01
-8.01e-01
                                                                                                                                      1.29e-01
7.38e-02
                                                                                                                                                    -3.54 0.00040
 Scale= 0.837
                                                                                                     Scale= 0.449
 Log Normal distribution
                                                                                                     Log logistic distribution
            model)= -1081.1 Loglik(intercept only)= -1193.3
Chisq= 224.44 on 17 degrees of freedom, p= 3.3e-38
 Loglik(model) = -1081.1
                                                                                                    Loglik(model) = -1078.1 Loglik(intercept only) = -1190.6 Chisq= 225.11 on 17 degrees of freedom, p= 2.4e-38
```

Model selection based on AICc:

	K	AICC	Delta_AICc	AICCWt	Cum.Wt	LL
Loglogistic	19	2196.76	0.00	0.95	0.95	-1078.08
Lognormal	19	2202.73	5.96	0.05	1.00	-1081.06
Weibull	19	2208.02	11.25	0.00	1.00	-1083.71
Exponential	18	2245.70	48.94	0.00	1.00	-1103.68

Model	K	AICc	Delta_AICc	AICcWt	Cum.Wt	LL
Loglogistic	19	2196.76	0	0.95	0.95	-1078.08
Lognormal	19	2202.73	5.96	0.05	1	-1081.06
Weibull	19	2208.02	11.25	0	1	-1083.71
Exponential	18	2245.7	48.94	0	1	-1103.68

The best model is the Loglogistic model.

The best model is the loglogistic model.