Supplementary Materials for "Personalized Biopsies in Prostate Cancer Active Surveillance"

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Appendix A. A Joint Model for the Longitudinal PSA, and Time to Gleason $\geq$ 7

Appendix A.1. Study Cohort

Prostate Cancer International Active Surveillance (PRIAS) is an ongoing prospective cohort study of men with low- and very-low risk PCa diagnoses [1]. More than 100 medical centers from 17 countries contribute in PRIAS, using a common study protocol (`www.prias-project.org`). We used the data collected between December 2006 (beginning of PRIAS study) and May 2019. The PSA was measured every three months until year two of follow-up and every six months thereafter. Biopsy schedule was year one, four, seven, and ten, and additional yearly biopsies when PSA doubling time

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is between zero and ten years. The primary event of this work is Gleason ≥ 7 (GS7). It was observed in 1134 patients, but 2250 were provided treatment (see Table 1). Treatment in absence of GS7 may have been advised on the basis of PSA, number of biopsy cores with cancer, anxiety, or other reasons. We focused only on GS7 because of its strong association with cancer-related outcomes. Due to the periodical nature of biopsies, the time of GS7 was only known as a time interval in which it occurred.

Table 1: **Patient characteristics for the PRIAS dataset**. The primary event of interest is Gleason ≥ 7. IQR: interquartile range, PSA: prostate-specific antigen.

Characteristic	Value
Total patients	7813
Gleason ≥ 7 (primary event)	1134
Treatment	2250
Watchful waiting	334
Loss to follow-up	250
Death (unrelated to prostate cancer)	95
Death (related to prostate cancer)	2
Median age at diagnosis (years)	66 (IQR: 61–71)
Median follow-up period per patient (years)	1.8 (IQR: 0.9–4.0)
Total PSA measurements	67578
Median number of PSA measurements per patient	6 (IQR: 4–12)
Median PSA value (ng/mL)	5.7 (IQR: 4.1–7.7)
Total biopsies	15686
Median number of biopsies per patient	2 (IQR: 1–2)

Appendix A.2. Model Definition

Let T_i^* denote the true time of GS7 for the i-th patient included in PRIAS. Since biopsies are conducted periodically, T_i^* is observed with interval censoring $l_i < T_i^* \leq r_i$. When GS7 is observed for the patient at his latest biopsy time r_i, then l_i denotes the time of the second latest biopsy. Otherwise, l_i denotes the time of the latest biopsy and $r_i = \infty$. Let $\boldsymbol{y}_i$ denote his observed PSA longitudinal measurements. The observed data of all n patients is denoted by $\mathcal{D}_n = \{l_i, r_i, \boldsymbol{y}_i; i = 1, \ldots, n\}$.

In our joint model, the patient-specific PSA measurements over time are modeled using a linear mixed effects sub-model. It is given by (see Panel A,

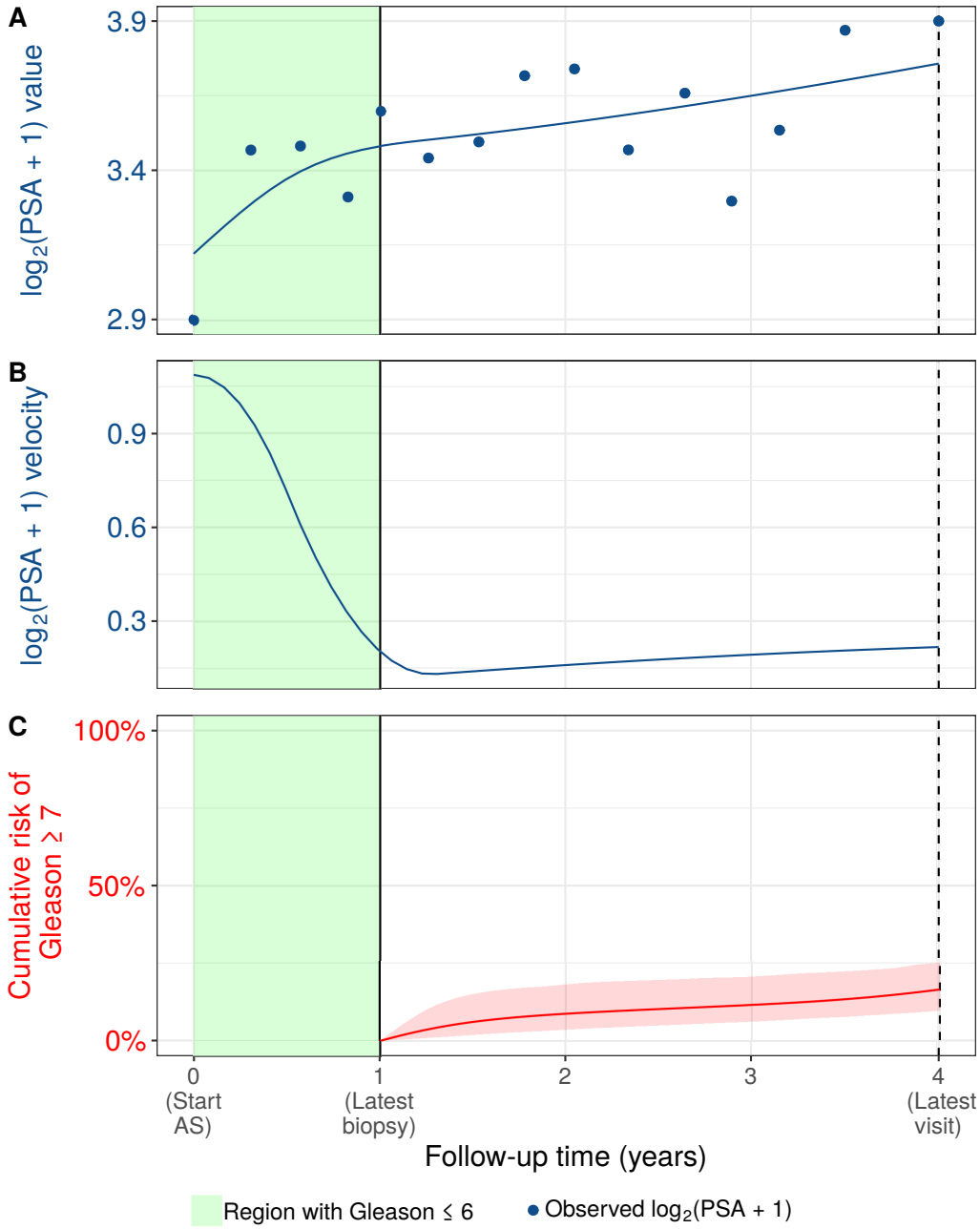

Figure 1: **Illustration of the joint model fitted to the PRIAS dataset**. **Panel A:** shows the observed and fitted $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ measurements (Equation 1). **Panel B:** shows the estimated $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ velocity over time, mathematically derived from Equation (1). The cumulative risk of Gleason ≥ 7 (Equation 2) shown in **Panel C**, depends on the fitted $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ value and velocity, and the time of the latest biopsy (year 1 in this case).

Figure 1):

$$\log_2\big\{y_i(t)+1\big\} = m_i(t)+\varepsilon_i(t),$$
$$m_i(t) = \beta_0 + b_{0i} + \sum_{k=1}^{4}(\beta_k + b_{ki})B_k\Big(\frac{t-2}{2}, \frac{\mathcal{K}-2}{2}\Big) + \beta_5 \text{age}_i, \quad (1)$$

where, $m_i(t)$ denotes the measurement error free value of $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ transformed [2, 3] measurements at time t. We model it non-linearly over time using B-splines [4]. To this end, our B-spline basis function $B_k\{(t-2)/2, (\mathcal{K}-2)/2\}$ has 3 internal knots at $\mathcal{K} = \{0.5, 1.3, 3\}$ years, which are the three quartiles of the observed follow-up times. The boundary knots of the spline are at 0 and 6.3 years (95-th percentile of the observed follow-up times). We mean centered (mean 2 years) and standardized (standard deviation 2 years) the follow-up time t and the knots of the B-spline $\mathcal{K}$ during parameter estimation for better convergence. The fixed effect parameters are denoted by $\{\beta_0, \ldots, \beta_5\}$, and $\{b_{0i}, \ldots, b_{4i}\}$ are the patient specific random effects. The random effects follow a multivariate normal distribution with mean zero and variance-covariance matrix $\boldsymbol{D}$. The error $\varepsilon_i(t)$ is assumed to be t-distributed with three degrees of freedom (see Appendix B.1) and scale σ, and is independent of the random effects.

To model the impact of PSA measurements on the risk of GS7, our joint model uses a relative risk sub-model. More specifically, the hazard of GS7 denoted as $h_i(t)$, and the cumulative risk of GS7 denoted as $R_i(t)$, at a time t are (see Panel C, Figure 1):

$$h_i(t) = h_0(t)\exp\Big(\gamma \text{age}_i + \alpha_1 m_i(t) + \alpha_2 \frac{\partial m_i(t)}{\partial t}\Big),$$
$$R_i(t) = \exp\Big\{-\int_0^t h_i(s)\mathrm{d}s\Big\}, \quad (2)$$

where, γ is the parameter for the effect of age. The impact of PSA on the hazard of GS7 is modeled in two ways, namely the impact of the error free underlying PSA value $m_i(t)$ (see Panel A, Figure 1), and the impact of the underlying PSA velocity $\partial m_i(t)/\partial t$ (see Panel B, Figure 1). The corresponding parameters are α_1 and α_2, respectively. Lastly, $h_0(t)$ is the baseline hazard at time t, and is modeled flexibly using P-splines [5]. More specifically:

$$\log h_0(t) = \gamma_{h_0,0} + \sum_{q=1}^{Q}\gamma_{h_0,q}B_q(t, \boldsymbol{v}),$$

where $B_q(t, \boldsymbol{v})$ denotes the q-th basis function of a B-spline with knots $\boldsymbol{v} = v_1, \ldots, v_Q$ and vector of spline coefficients γ_{h_0}. To avoid choosing the number and position of knots in the spline, a relatively high number of knots (e.g., 15 to 20) are chosen and the corresponding B-spline regression coefficients γ_{h_0} are penalized using a differences penalty [5].

Appendix A.3. Parameter Estimation

We estimate the parameters of the joint model using Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) methods under the Bayesian framework. Let $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ denote the vector of all of the parameters of the joint model. The joint model postulates that given the random effects, the time of GS7, and the PSA measurements taken over time are all mutually independent. Under this assumption the posterior distribution of the parameters is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} p(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{b} \mid \mathcal{D}_n) &\propto \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(l_i, r_i, \boldsymbol{y}_i, \mid \boldsymbol{b}_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\boldsymbol{b}_i \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \\ &\propto \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(l_i, r_i \mid \boldsymbol{b}_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\boldsymbol{y}_i \mid \boldsymbol{b}_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\boldsymbol{b}_i \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(\boldsymbol{\theta}), \\ p(\boldsymbol{b}_i \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^q \det(\boldsymbol{D})}} \exp(\boldsymbol{b}_i^T \boldsymbol{D}^{-1} \boldsymbol{b}_i), \end{aligned}$$

where, the likelihood contribution of the PSA outcome, conditional on the random effects is:

$$p(\boldsymbol{y}_i \mid \boldsymbol{b}_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{\left(\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}\right)^{n_i}} \exp\left(- \frac{\left\| \boldsymbol{y}_i - \boldsymbol{m}_i \right\|^2}{\sigma^2} \right),$$

The likelihood contribution of the time of GS7 outcome is given by:

$$p(l_i, r_i \mid \boldsymbol{b}_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \exp\Big\{ - \int_0^{l_i} h_i(s) \mathrm{d}s \Big\} - \exp\Big\{ - \int_0^{r_i} h_i(s) \mathrm{d}s \Big\}. \qquad (3)$$

The integral in (3) does not have a closed-form solution, and therefore we use a 15-point Gauss-Kronrod quadrature rule to approximate it.

We use independent normal priors with zero mean and variance 100 for the fixed effects $\{\beta_0, \ldots, \beta_5\}$, and inverse Gamma prior with shape and rate both equal to 0.01 for the parameter σ^2. For the variance-covariance matrix $\boldsymbol{D}$ of the random effects we take inverse Wishart prior with an identity scale matrix and degrees of freedom equal to 5 (number of random effects). For the relative risk model's parameter γ and the association parameters α_1, α_2, we use independent normal priors with zero mean and variance 100.

Appendix A.4. Parameter Estimates

The joint model was fitted using the R package **JMbayes** [6]. This package utilizes the Bayesian methodology to estimate model parameters. The corresponding posterior parameter estimates are shown in Table 3 (longitudinal sub-model for PSA outcome) and Table 4 (relative risk sub-model). The parameter estimates for the variance-covariance matrix $\boldsymbol{D}$ from the longitudinal sub-model for PSA are shown in the following Table 2:

Table 2: Estimated variance-covariance matrix $\boldsymbol{D}$ of the random effects $\boldsymbol{b} = (b_0, b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4)$ (see Appendix A.2) from the joint model fitted to the PRIAS dataset. The variances of the random effects are highlighted along the diagonal of the variance-covariance matrix.

Random Effects	b_0	b_1	b_2	b_3	b_4
b_0	**0.229**	0.030	0.023	0.073	0.007
b_1	0.030	**0.149**	0.098	0.171	0.085
b_2	0.023	0.098	**0.276**	0.335	0.236
b_3	0.073	0.171	0.335	**0.560**	0.359
b_4	0.007	0.085	0.236	0.359	**0.351**

For the PSA mixed effects sub-model parameter estimates (see Equation 1), in Table 3 we can see that the age of the patient trivially affects the baseline $\log_2(\text{PSA} + 1)$ measurement. Since the longitudinal evolution of $\log_2(\text{PSA} + 1)$ measurements is modeled with non-linear terms, the interpretation of the coefficients corresponding to time is not straightforward. In lieu of the interpretation, in Figure 2 we present plots of observed versus fitted PSA profiles for nine randomly selected patients.

Table 3: Estimated mean and 95% credible interval for the parameters of the longitudinal sub-model (see Equation 1) for the PSA outcome.

Variable	Mean	Std. Dev	2.5%	97.5%	P
Intercept	2.129	0.060	2.009	2.244	<0.001
Age	0.008	0.001	0.007	0.010	<0.001
Spline: [0.0, 0.5] years	0.063	0.007	0.051	0.075	<0.001
Spline: [0.5, 1.3] years	0.196	0.010	0.177	0.217	<0.001
Spline: [1.3, 3.0] years	0.244	0.014	0.217	0.272	<0.001
Spline: [3.0, 6.3] years	0.382	0.014	0.356	0.410	<0.001
σ	0.139	0.001	0.138	0.140	

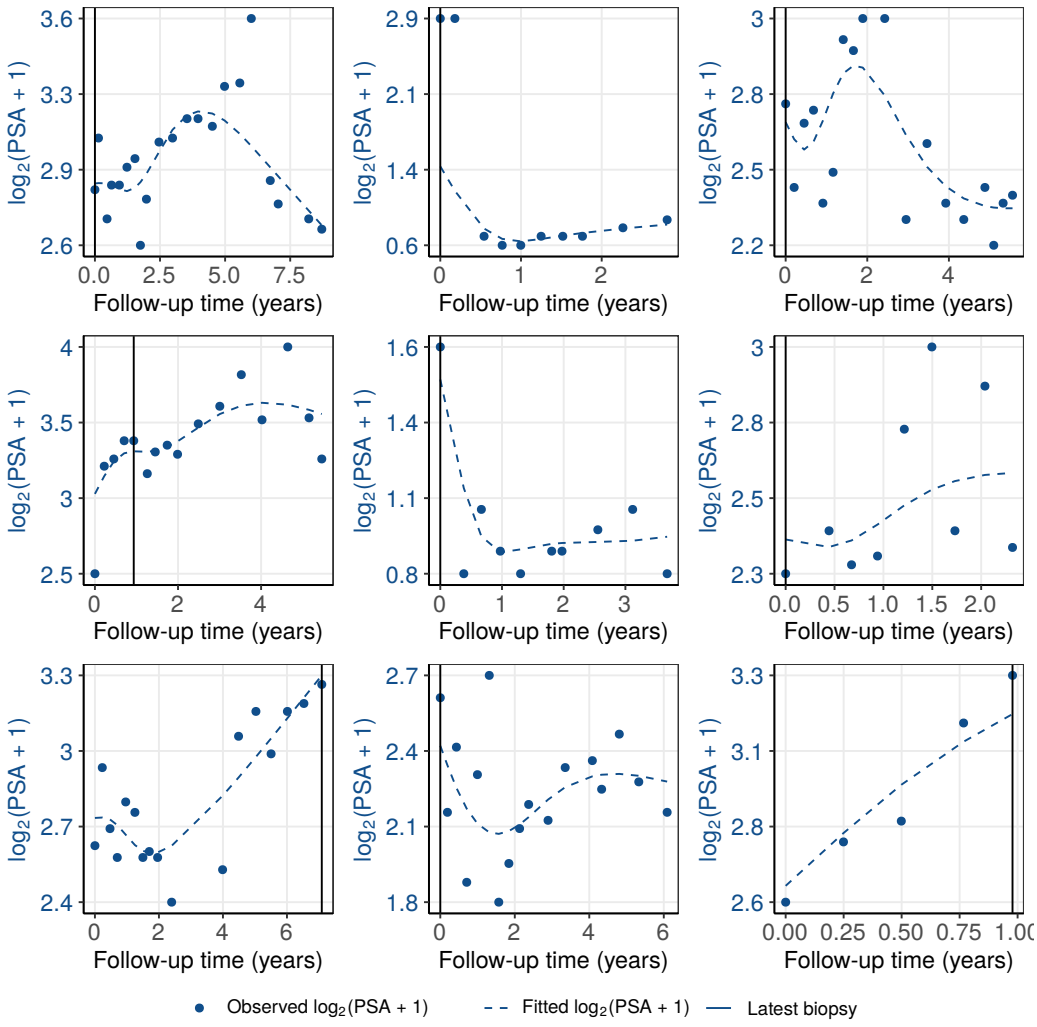

Figure 2: Fitted versus observed $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ profiles for nine randomly selected PRIAS patients. The fitted profiles utilize information from the observed PSA measurements, and time of the latest biopsy.

For the relative risk sub-model (see Equation 2), the parameter estimates in Table 4 show that $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ velocity and age of the patient were significantly associated with the hazard of GS7.

Table 4: Estimated mean and 95% credible interval for the parameters of the relative risk sub-model (see Equation 2) of the joint model fitted to the PRIAS dataset.

Variable	Mean	Std. Dev	2.5%	97.5%	P
Age	0.037	0.006	0.025	0.049	<0.001
Fitted $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ value	-0.012	0.076	-0.164	0.135	0.856
Fitted $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ velocity	2.266	0.299	1.613	2.767	<0.001

It is important to note that since age, and $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ value and velocity are all measured on different scales, a comparison between the corresponding parameter estimates is not easy. To this end, in Table 5, we present the hazard (of GS7) ratio, for an increase in the aforementioned variables from their first to the third quartile. For example, an increase in fitted $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ velocity from -0.085 to 0.308 (fitted first and third quartiles) corresponds to a hazard ratio of 2.433. The interpretation for the rest is similar.

Table 5: Hazard (of GS7) ratio and 95% credible interval (CI), for an increase in the variables of relative risk sub-model, from their first quartile (Q_1) to their third quartile (Q_3). Except for age, quartiles for all other variables are based on their fitted values obtained from the joint model fitted to the PRIAS dataset.

Variable	Q_1	Q_3	Hazard ratio [95% CI]
Age	61	71	1.455 [1.285, 1.631]
Fitted $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ value	2.360	3.078	0.991 [0.889, 1.102]
Fitted $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ velocity	-0.085	0.308	2.433 [1.883, 2.962]

Appendix A.5. Assumption of t-distributed (df=3) Error Terms

With regards to the choice of the distribution for the error term ε for the PSA measurements (see Equation 1), we attempted fitting multiple joint models differing in error distribution, namely t-distribution with three, and four degrees of freedom, and a normal distribution for the error term. However, the model assumption for the error term were best met by the model with t-distribution having three degrees of freedom. The quantile-quantile plot of subject-specific residuals for the corresponding model in Panel A of

Figure 3, shows that the assumption of t-distributed (df=3) errors is reasonably met by the fitted model.

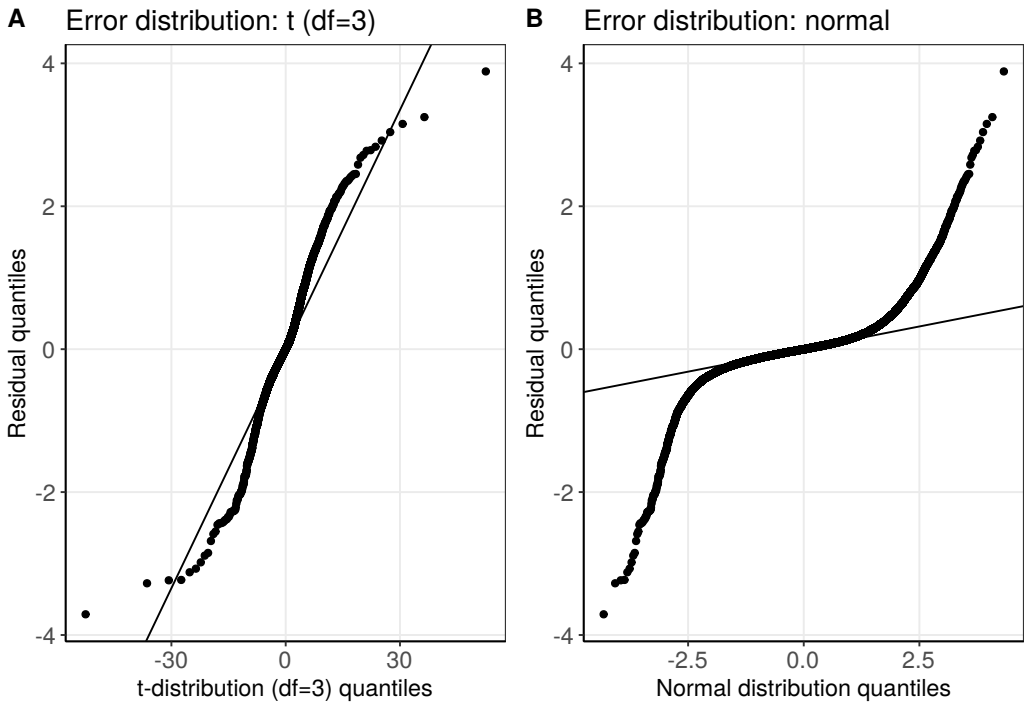

Figure 3: Quantile-quantile plot of subject-specific residuals from the joint models fitted to the PRIAS dataset. **Panel A**: model assuming a t-distribution (df=3) for the error term ε (see Equation 1). **Panel B**: model assuming a normal distribution for the error term ε.

Appendix B. Obtaining Dynamic Risk Predictions from the Joint Model

Let us assume a new patient j, for whom we need to estimate the risk of GS7. Let his current follow-up visit time be s, latest time of biopsy be t, observed vector PSA measurements be $\mathcal{Y}_j(s)$. The combined information from the observed data about the time of GS7, is given by the following posterior predictive distribution $g(T_j^*)$ of his time T_j^* of GS7:

$$\begin{aligned} g(T_j^*) &= p\big\{T_j^* \mid T_j^* > t, \mathcal{Y}_j(s), \mathcal{D}_n\big\} \\ &= \int\int p\big(T_j^* \mid T_j^* > t, \boldsymbol{b}_j, \boldsymbol{\theta}\big) \\ &\quad \times p\big\{\boldsymbol{b}_j \mid T_j^* > t, \mathcal{Y}_j(s), \boldsymbol{\theta}\big\} p\big(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathcal{D}_n\big) \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{b}_j \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\theta}. \end{aligned}$$

The distribution $g(T_j^*)$ depends not only depends on the observed data of the patient $T_j^* > t, \mathcal{Y}_j(s)$, but also depends on the information from the PRIAS dataset $\mathcal{D}_n$. To this the the posterior distribution of random effects $\boldsymbol{b}_j$ and posterior distribution of the vector of all parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ are utilized, respectively. The distribution $g(T_j^*)$ can be estimated as detailed in Rizopoulos et al. [7]. Since, majority of the prostate cancer patients do not obtain GS7 in the ten year follow-up period of PRIAS, $g(T_j^*)$ can only be estimated for time points falling within the ten year follow-up.

The cumulative risk of GS7 can be derived from $g(T_j^*)$ as given in [7]. It is given by:

$$R_j(u \mid t, s) = \Pr\big\{T_j^* > u \mid T_j^* > t, \mathcal{Y}_j(s), \mathcal{D}_n\big\}, \quad u \geq t. \tag{4}$$

The personalized risk profile of the patient (see Panel C, Figure 4) updates as more data is gathered over follow-up visits.

Appendix B.1. Validation of Risk Predictions

We validated the predictions of GS7 internally within the PRIAS dataset, as well as externally in five largest AS cohorts from the GAP3 database [8]. These are the University of Toronto AS (Toronto), Johns Hopkins AS (JHAS), Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center AS (MSKCC), King's College London AS (KCL), and Michigan Urological Surgery Improvement Collaborative AS (MUSIC). In all of these cohorts, we calculated the area under the receiver operating characteristic curve or AUC [7] as a measure of discrimination between patients who obtain GS7 and those do not obtain GS7.

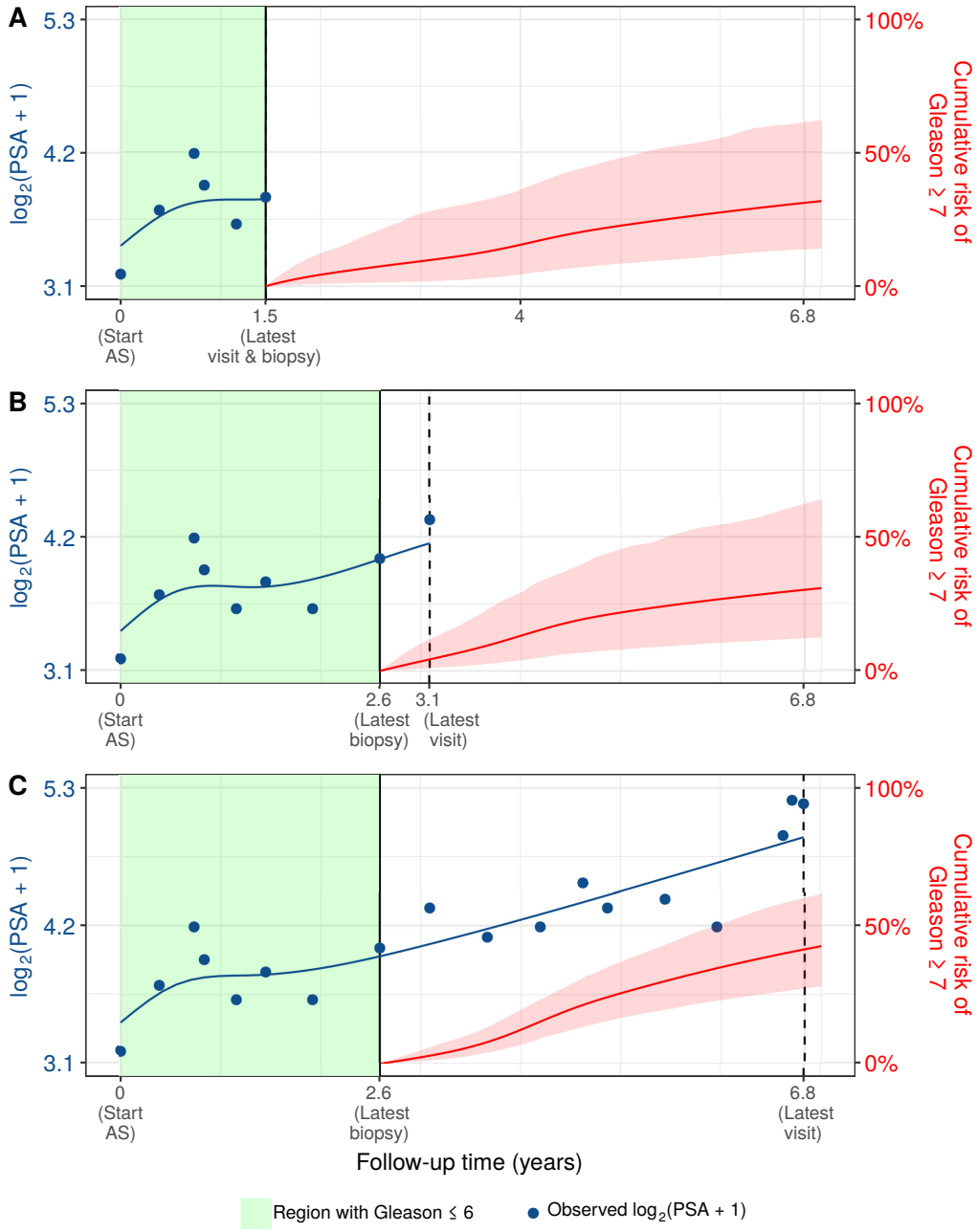

Figure 4: **Cumulative risk of Gleason ≥ 7 (GS7) changing dynamically over follow-up** as more patient data is gathered. The three **Panels A,B and C:** are ordered by the time of the latest visit (dashed vertical black line) of a new patient. At each of the latest follow-up visits, we combine the information from observed PSA measurements (shown in blue), and latest time of negative biopsy (solid vertical black line) to obtain the updated cumulative risk profile (shown in red) of the patient.

We also calculated root mean squared prediction error or RMSPE [7] as a measure of calibration. Both AUC and RMSPE take a value between 0 and 1. Ideally RMSPE should be 0 and AUC should 1. In addition, it is preferred that AUC > 0.5 because an AUC ≤ 0.5 indicates that the model performs worse than random discrimination. Since AS studies are longitudinal in nature, AUC and RMSPE are also time dependent. More specifically, given the time of latest biopsy t, and history of PSA measurements up to time s, we calculate AUC and RMSPE for a medically relevant time frame $(t, s]$, within which the occurrence of GS7 is of interest. In the case of prostate cancer, at any point in time s it is of interest to identify patients who may have obtained GS7 in the last one year $(s-1, s]$. That is we set $t = s - 1$. We then calculate AUC and RMSPE at a gap of every six months (follow-up schedule of PRIAS) until year five (95-percentile of the observed times of GS7), that is, $s\epsilon\{1, 1.5, \ldots, 5\}$ years. The resulting estimates are summarized in Figure 5, and in Table 6 to Table 11.

Table 6: **Internal Validation of predictions of Gleason $\geq$ 7 (GS7) in PRIAS cohort**. The area under the receiver operating characteristic curve or AUC (measure of discrimination) root mean squared prediction error or RMSPE (measure of calibration) are calculated over the follow-up period at a gap of 6 months. In addition bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals (CI) are also presented.

Follow-up period (years)	AUC (95% CI)	RMSPE (95%CI)
0.0 to 1.0	0.656 [0.623, 0.690]	0.227 [0.223, 0.236]
0.5 to 1.5	0.657 [0.641, 0.671]	0.376 [0.371, 0.382]
1.0 to 2.0	0.663 [0.651, 0.678]	0.371 [0.364, 0.379]
1.5 to 2.5	0.650 [0.600, 0.684]	0.253 [0.245, 0.263]
2.0 to 3.0	0.676 [0.641, 0.725]	0.252 [0.241, 0.262]
2.5 to 3.5	0.689 [0.629, 0.732]	0.238 [0.224, 0.251]
3.0 to 4.0	0.652 [0.614, 0.709]	0.273 [0.263, 0.285]
3.5 to 4.5	0.625 [0.591, 0.663]	0.338 [0.326, 0.349]
4.0 to 5.0	0.623 [0.587, 0.657]	0.338 [0.325, 0.350]

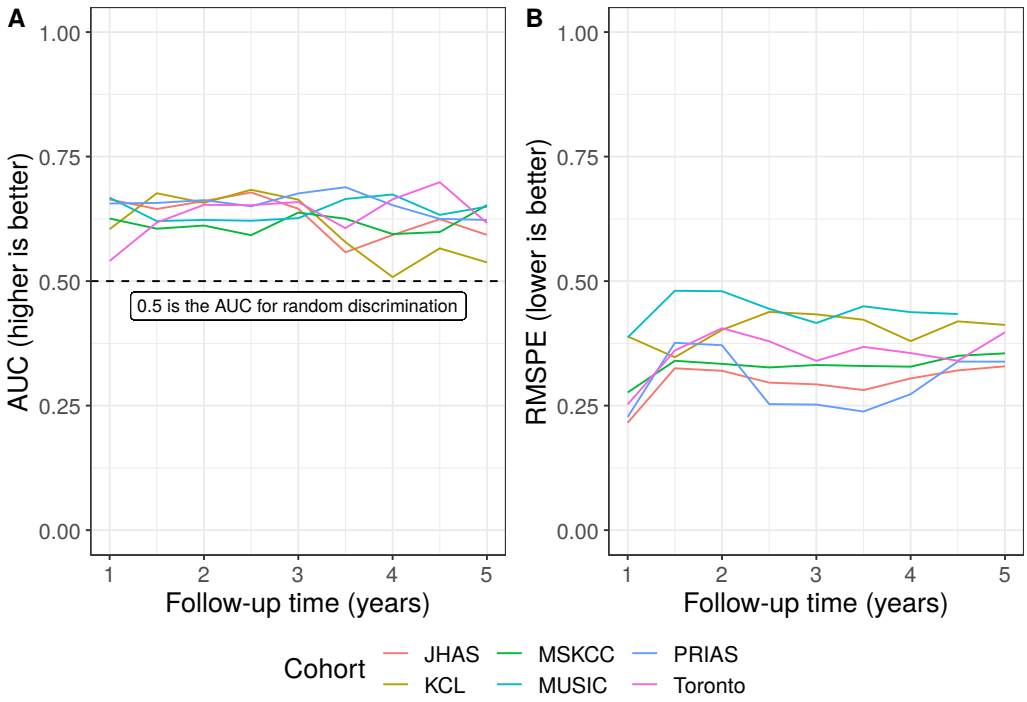

Figure 5: **Validation of predictions of Gleason $\geq$ 7 (GS7)**. In **Panel A** we can see that the time dependent area under the receiver operating characteristic curve or AUC (measure of discrimination) is above 0.5 in PRIAS (internal validation), and in Toronto, JHAS, MSKCC, KCL, and MUSIC AS cohorts (external validation). In **Panel B** we can see that the time dependent root mean squared prediction error or RMSPE (measure of calibration) is similar for PRIAS, and JHAS and Toronto cohorts. The bootstrapped 95% confidence interval for these estimates are presented in Table 6 to Table 10. Full names of Cohorts are *PRIAS*: Prostate Cancer International Active Surveillance, *Toronto*: University of Toronto Active Surveillance, *JHAS*: Johns Hopkins Active Surveillance, *MSKCC*: Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Active Surveillance, *KCL*: King's College London Active Surveillance, *MUSIC*: Michigan Urological Surgery Improvement Collaborative Active Surveillance.

Table 7: **External Validation of predictions of Gleason $\geq$ 7 (GS7) in University of Toronto Active Surveillance cohort**. The area under the receiver operating characteristic curve or AUC (measure of discrimination) root mean squared prediction error or RMSPE (measure of calibration) are calculated over the follow-up period at a gap of 6 months. In addition bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals (CI) are also presented.

Follow-up period (years)	AUC (95% CI)	RMSPE (95%CI)
0.0 to 1.0	0.540 [0.493, 0.595]	0.252 [0.236, 0.272]
0.5 to 1.5	0.618 [0.562, 0.660]	0.361 [0.350, 0.373]
1.0 to 2.0	0.653 [0.580, 0.719]	0.405 [0.384, 0.428]
1.5 to 2.5	0.652 [0.596, 0.727]	0.379 [0.358, 0.408]
2.0 to 3.0	0.659 [0.565, 0.743]	0.340 [0.303, 0.369]
2.5 to 3.5	0.606 [0.548, 0.676]	0.368 [0.340, 0.401]
3.0 to 4.0	0.664 [0.583, 0.736]	0.355 [0.324, 0.391]
3.5 to 4.5	0.699 [0.610, 0.773]	0.340 [0.310, 0.374]
4.0 to 5.0	0.617 [0.546, 0.705]	0.397 [0.355, 0.425]

Table 8: **External Validation of predictions of Gleason $\geq$ 7 (GS7) in Johns Hopkins Active Surveillance cohort**. The area under the receiver operating characteristic curve or AUC (measure of discrimination) root mean squared prediction error or RMSPE (measure of calibration) are calculated over the follow-up period at a gap of 6 months. In addition bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals (CI) are also presented.

Follow-up period (years)	AUC (95% CI)	RMSPE (95%CI)
0.0 to 1.0	0.664 [0.604, 0.743]	0.216 [0.198, 0.236]
0.5 to 1.5	0.645 [0.597, 0.695]	0.325 [0.310, 0.339]
1.0 to 2.0	0.661 [0.615, 0.707]	0.320 [0.300, 0.335]
1.5 to 2.5	0.678 [0.587, 0.736]	0.296 [0.277, 0.312]
2.0 to 3.0	0.645 [0.595, 0.701]	0.293 [0.268, 0.317]
2.5 to 3.5	0.558 [0.445, 0.622]	0.281 [0.256, 0.307]
3.0 to 4.0	0.593 [0.498, 0.693]	0.305 [0.281, 0.329]
3.5 to 4.5	0.624 [0.527, 0.690]	0.321 [0.294, 0.340]
4.0 to 5.0	0.593 [0.483, 0.694]	0.329 [0.306, 0.352]

Table 9: **External Validation of predictions of Gleason $\geq$ 7 (GS7) in Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Active Surveillance cohort**. The area under the receiver operating characteristic curve or AUC (measure of discrimination) root mean squared prediction error or RMSPE (measure of calibration) are calculated over the follow-up period at a gap of 6 months. In addition bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals (CI) are also presented.

Follow-up period (years)	AUC (95% CI)	RMSPE (95%CI)
0.0 to 1.0	0.626 [0.558, 0.681]	0.276 [0.260, 0.297]
0.5 to 1.5	0.605 [0.539, 0.666]	0.340 [0.321, 0.360]
1.0 to 2.0	0.612 [0.564, 0.672]	0.334 [0.316, 0.350]
1.5 to 2.5	0.592 [0.502, 0.670]	0.327 [0.306, 0.345]
2.0 to 3.0	0.638 [0.548, 0.720]	0.332 [0.304, 0.363]
2.5 to 3.5	0.625 [0.542, 0.717]	0.330 [0.303, 0.371]
3.0 to 4.0	0.594 [0.511, 0.655]	0.328 [0.281, 0.368]
3.5 to 4.5	0.599 [0.481, 0.740]	0.350 [0.312, 0.373]
4.0 to 5.0	0.653 [0.562, 0.724]	0.355 [0.320, 0.380]

Table 10: **External Validation of predictions of Gleason $\geq$ 7 (GS7) in King's College London Active Surveillance cohort**. The area under the receiver operating characteristic curve or AUC (measure of discrimination) root mean squared prediction error or RMSPE (measure of calibration) are calculated over the follow-up period at a gap of 6 months. In addition bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals (CI) are also presented.

Follow-up period (years)	AUC (95% CI)	RMSPE (95%CI)
0.0 to 1.0	0.604 [0.548, 0.663]	0.389 [0.366, 0.411]
0.5 to 1.5	0.676 [0.603, 0.744]	0.347 [0.328, 0.372]
1.0 to 2.0	0.657 [0.578, 0.728]	0.402 [0.368, 0.426]
1.5 to 2.5	0.683 [0.595, 0.773]	0.438 [0.395, 0.469]
2.0 to 3.0	0.664 [0.576, 0.735]	0.433 [0.396, 0.467]
2.5 to 3.5	0.578 [0.443, 0.712]	0.422 [0.345, 0.479]
3.0 to 4.0	0.508 [0.358, 0.670]	0.380 [0.313, 0.452]
3.5 to 4.5	0.566 [0.346, 0.776]	0.419 [0.354, 0.484]
4.0 to 5.0	0.538 [0.295, 0.759]	0.412 [0.345, 0.470]

Table 11: **External Validation of predictions of Gleason $\geq$ 7 (GS7) in Michigan Urological Surgery Improvement Collaborative Active Surveillance cohort**. The area under the receiver operating characteristic curve or AUC (measure of discrimination) root mean squared prediction error or RMSPE (measure of calibration) are calculated over the follow-up period at a gap of 6 months. In addition bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals (CI) are also presented.

Follow-up period (years)	AUC (95% CI)	RMSPE (95%CI)
0.0 to 1.0	0.667 [0.616, 0.703]	0.387 [0.369, 0.409]
0.5 to 1.5	0.620 [0.566, 0.646]	0.481 [0.462, 0.495]
1.0 to 2.0	0.623 [0.569, 0.666]	0.480 [0.459, 0.501]
1.5 to 2.5	0.621 [0.580, 0.677]	0.444 [0.418, 0.472]
2.0 to 3.0	0.626 [0.464, 0.710]	0.416 [0.376, 0.459]
2.5 to 3.5	0.665 [0.554, 0.796]	0.449 [0.390, 0.493]
3.0 to 4.0	0.674 [0.540, 0.757]	0.438 [0.374, 0.483]
3.5 to 4.5	0.633 [0.410, 0.865]	0.434 [0.346, 0.485]
4.0 to 5.0	0.650 [0.248, 0.946]	– [– , –]

Appendix C. Personalized Biopsies Based on Risk of GS7

Consider some real patients from the PRIAS database shown in Figure 6 to Figure 9. We intend to develop personalized schedule of biopsies for these patients. Using the joint model fitted to the PRIAS dataset, we first obtain their cumulative risk of GS7 over the entire follow-up period (see Equation 4). This cumulative risk accounts for their entire history of PSA as well as the time of their latest negative biopsy. For a new patient j we suggest a personalized risk based biopsy at time s if their cumulative risk of GS7 denoted by $R_j(s \mid t, s)$ at s, given the time of their latest negative biopsy t, is above a certain threshold (e.g., 10% risk). Suppose that in this way a decision of biopsy is taken at time s. Since patients may be removed from AS upon detection of GS7, schedule of future biopsies is made by assuming that GS7 is not detected at time s. Thus, for a decision of biopsy at the next visit time $s+1$, the cumulative risk of GS7 denoted by $R_j(s+1 \mid s, s)$ that the time of latest negative biopsy is s. Similarly, if $R_j(s+1 \mid s, s) < 10\%$, then we decide for a biopsy at a subsequent time $s+2$ using the threshold $R_j(s+2 \mid s, s)$. On the other hand if $R_j(s+1 \mid s, s) \geq 10\%$ then then we decide for a biopsy at time $s+2$ using the threshold $R_j(s+2 \mid s+1, s)$. While scheduling these biopsies we always maintain a minimum gap of one year. Personalized schedules can also be made with any other risk threshold such as 5% or 15%.

To assist patients in making an informed choice for a schedule, be it personalized or fixed, we provide them patient-specific consequences of following each schedule. To this end, we first calculate the probability of occurrence of GS7 between successive biopsies of each schedule. Using these probabilities we then obtain the expected delay in detection of GS7 for following that schedule. Thus, patients have a method to compare across various schedules in terms of the personalized burden (time and total biopsies), and personalized benefit (less delay in detection of GS7 is beneficial). Suppose once again that for patient j, the time of latest negative biopsy is t, and current visit time is $s > t$. Then equation for the expected delay $D_j(\mathcal{S} \mid t, s)$ in detection of GS7 using schedule of biopsies $\mathcal{S} = \{t_1, \ldots, t_h\}$, where $t_1 \geq s$, and t_h is the horizon time up to which we want to schedule biopsies, is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} D_j(\mathcal{S} \mid t, s) = & \sum_{v=1}^{h-1} \Big\{ R_j(t_{v+1} \mid t, s) - R_j(t_v \mid t, s) \Big\} \\ & \times \left\{ t_{v+1} - t_v - \int_{t_v}^{t_{v+1}} \frac{R_j(t_{v+1} \mid t, s) - R_j(u \mid t, s)}{R_j(t_{v+1} \mid t, s) - R_j(t_v \mid t, s)} \mathrm{d}u \right\} \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

The personalized and fixed schedules, and their consequences for a few real patients from the PRIAS dataset are shown in Figure 6 to Figure 9. We maintained a minimum gap of one year between biopsies as advised by the PRIAS protocol. In addition, we scheduled biopsies only for the first ten years follow-up because of limited follow-up data period of PRIAS. A compulsory biopsy was done at year ten of follow-up in all schedules for meaningful comparison of their expected delays in detection of GS7.

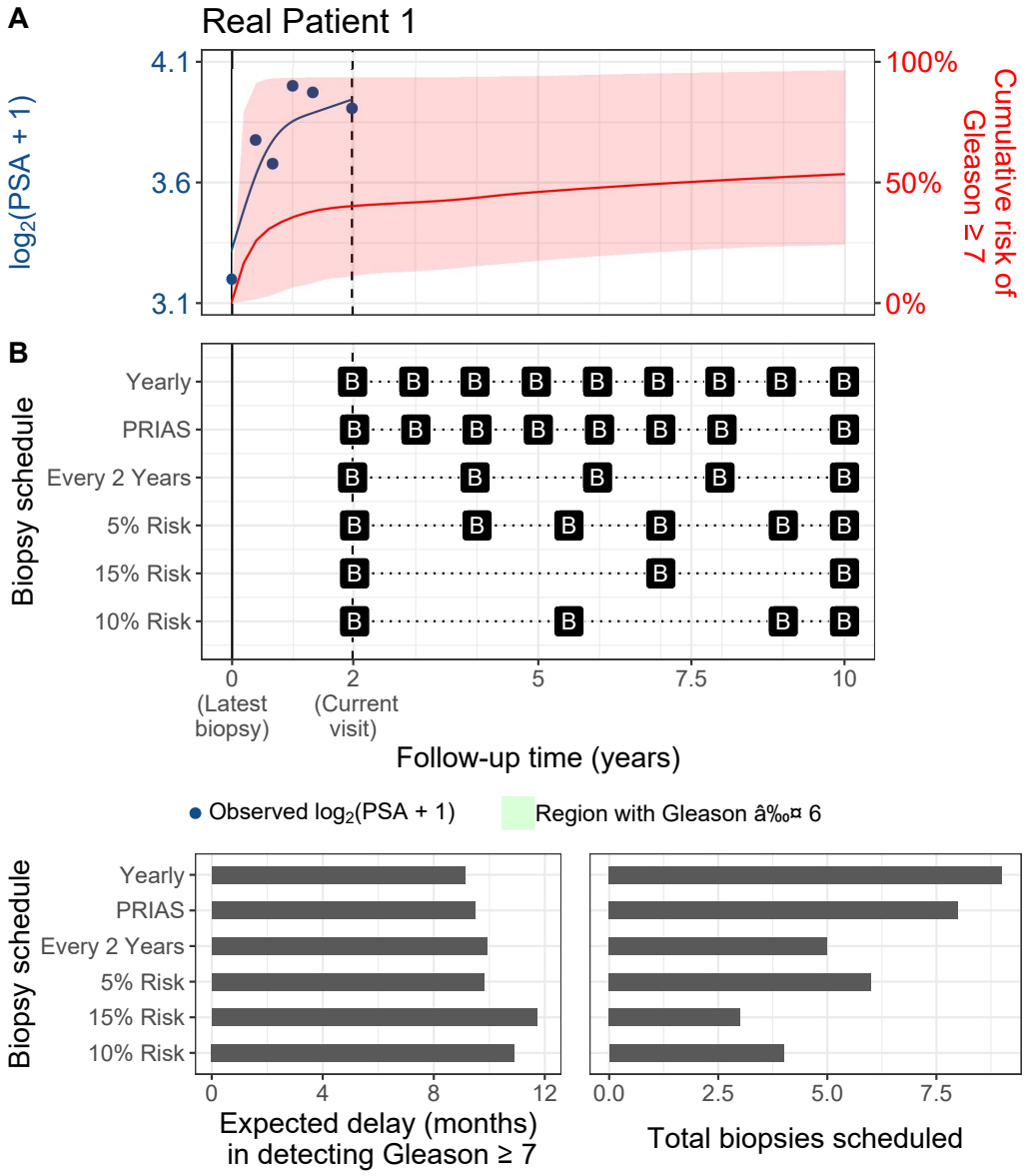

Figure 6: **Personalized and fixed schedules of biopsies for patient 1**. **Panel A:** shows the observed and fitted $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ measurements (Equation 1), and the dynamic cumulative risk of Gleason ≥ 7 (see Appendix B) over follow-up period. **Panel B** shows the personalized and fixed schedules of biopsies with a 'B' indicating times of biopsies. In the bottom two panels, the various schedules are compared in terms of the number of biopsies they schedule, and the expected delay in detection of Gleason ≥ 7 if they are followed.

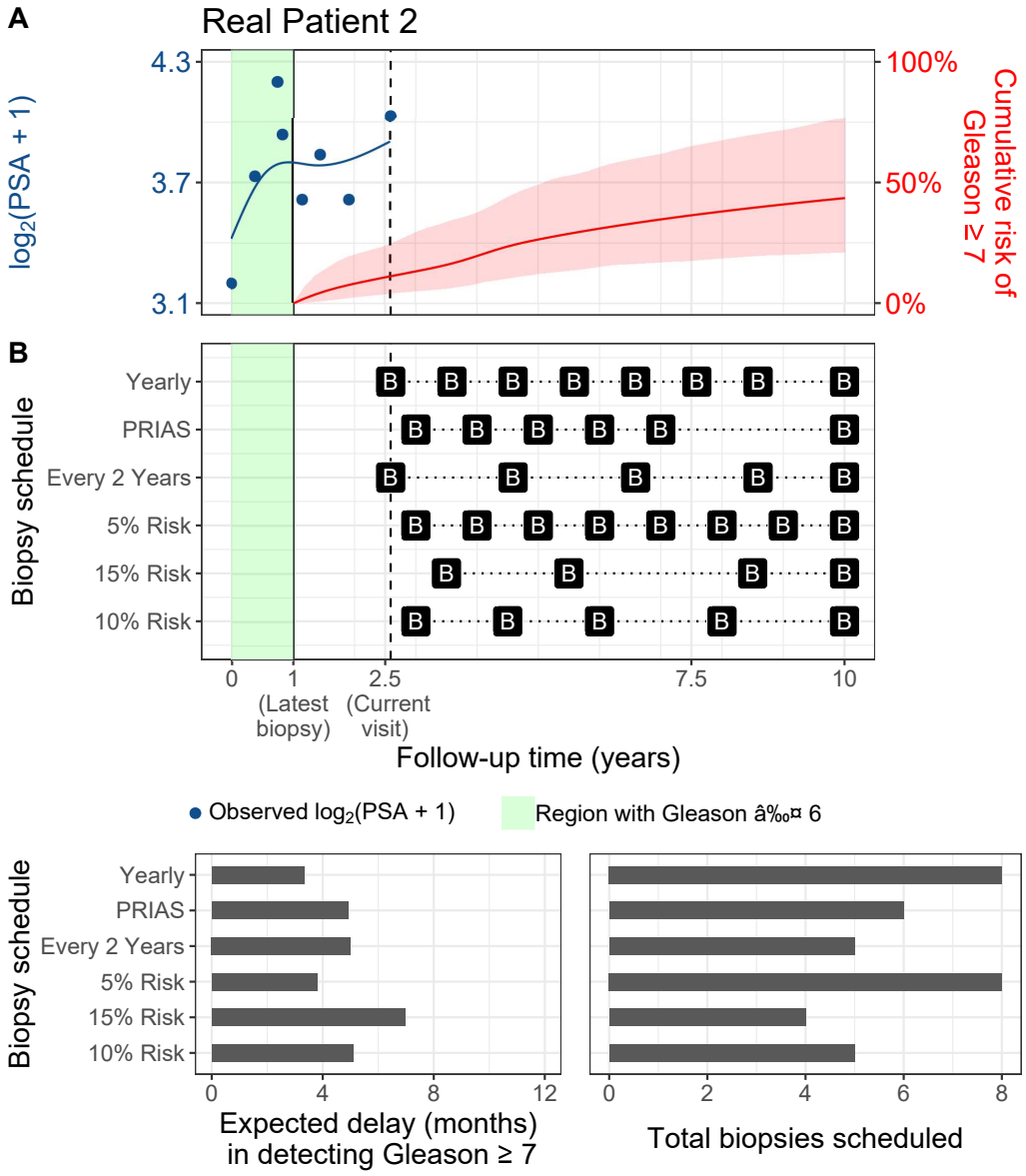

Figure 7: **Personalized and fixed schedules of biopsies for patient 2**. **Panel A:** shows the observed and fitted $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ measurements (Equation 1), and the dynamic cumulative risk of Gleason ≥ 7 (see Appendix B) over follow-up period. **Panel B** shows the personalized and fixed schedules of biopsies with a 'B' indicating times of biopsies. In the bottom two panels, the various schedules are compared in terms of the number of biopsies they schedule, and the expected delay in detection of Gleason ≥ 7 if they are followed.

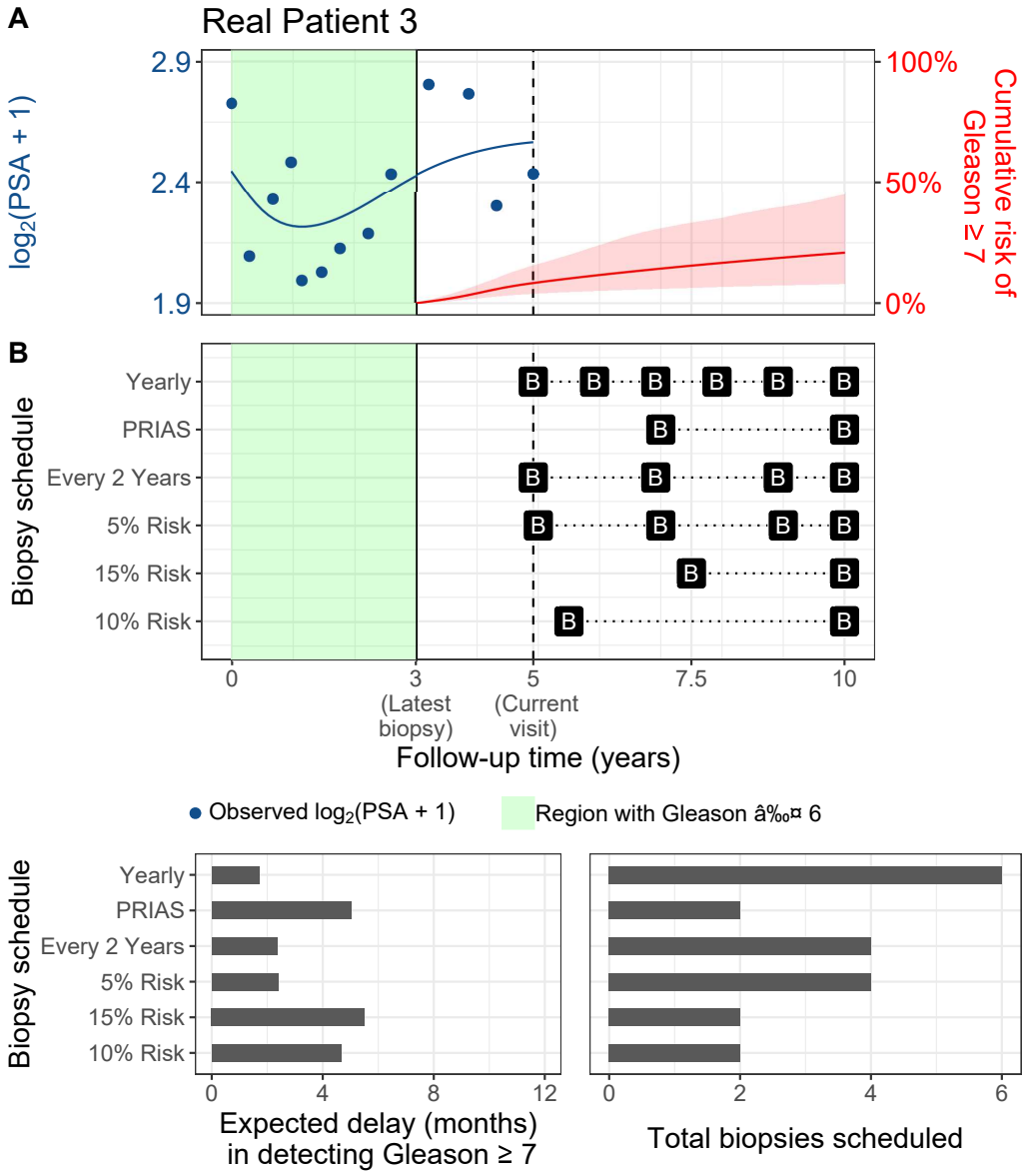

Figure 8: **Personalized and fixed schedules of biopsies for patient 3**. **Panel A:** shows the observed and fitted $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ measurements (Equation 1), and the dynamic cumulative risk of Gleason ≥ 7 (see Appendix B) over follow-up period. **Panel B** shows the personalized and fixed schedules of biopsies with a 'B' indicating times of biopsies. In the bottom two panels, the various schedules are compared in terms of the number of biopsies they schedule, and the expected delay in detection of Gleason ≥ 7 if they are followed.

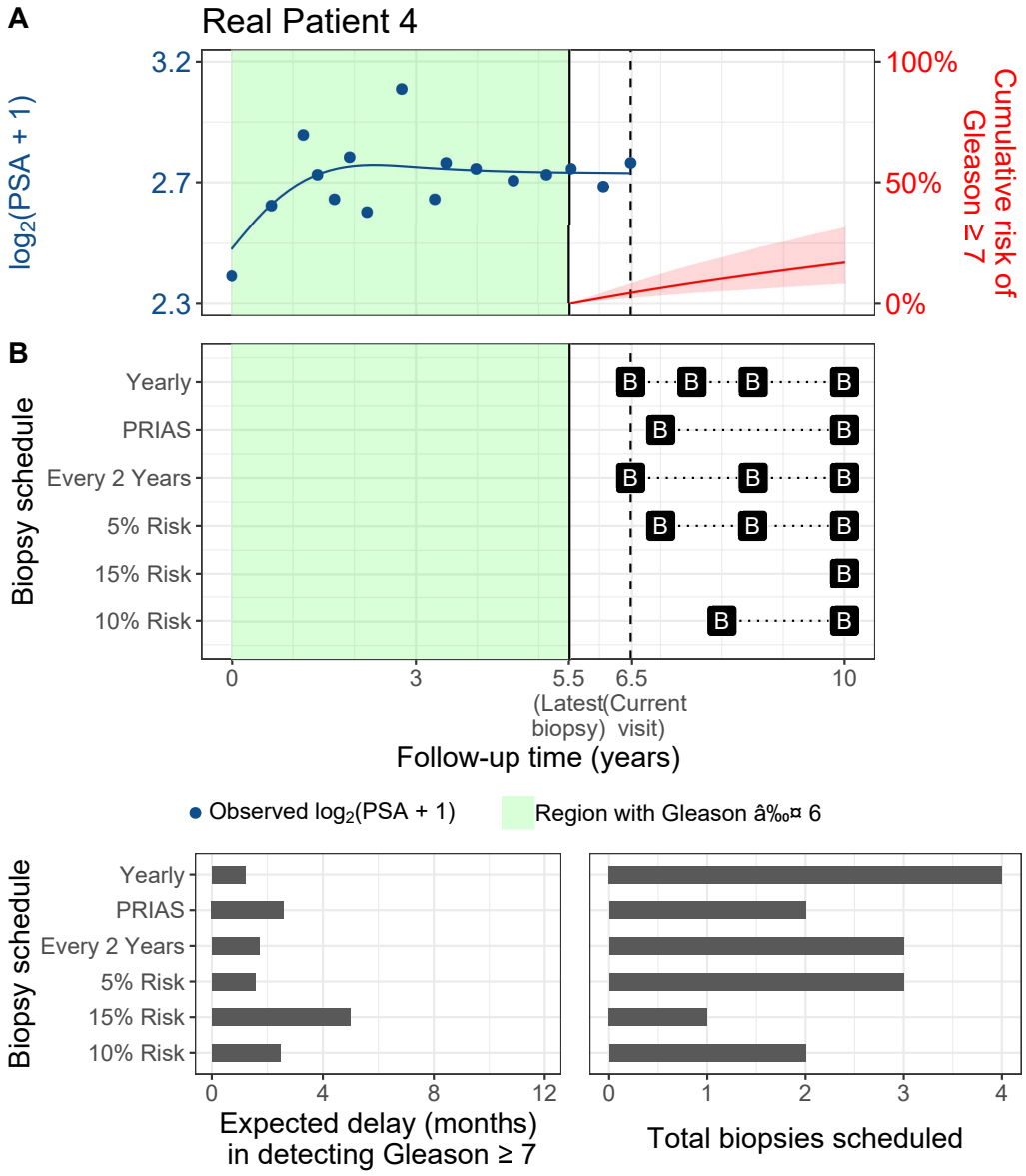

Figure 9: **Personalized and fixed schedules of biopsies for patient 4. Panel A:** shows the observed and fitted $\log_2(\text{PSA}+1)$ measurements (Equation 1), and the dynamic cumulative risk of Gleason ≥ 7 (see Appendix B) over follow-up period. **Panel B** shows the personalized and fixed schedules of biopsies with a 'B' indicating times of biopsies. In the bottom two panels, the various schedules are compared in terms of the number of biopsies they schedule, and the expected delay in detection of Gleason ≥ 7 if they are followed.

Appendix D. Web Application for Practical Use of Personalized Schedule of Biopsies

We implemented our methodology in a web-application to assist patients and doctors in better decision making. It works on desktop as well as mobile devices. It is hosted at `https://emcbiostatistics.shinyapps.io/prias_biopsy_recommender/`.

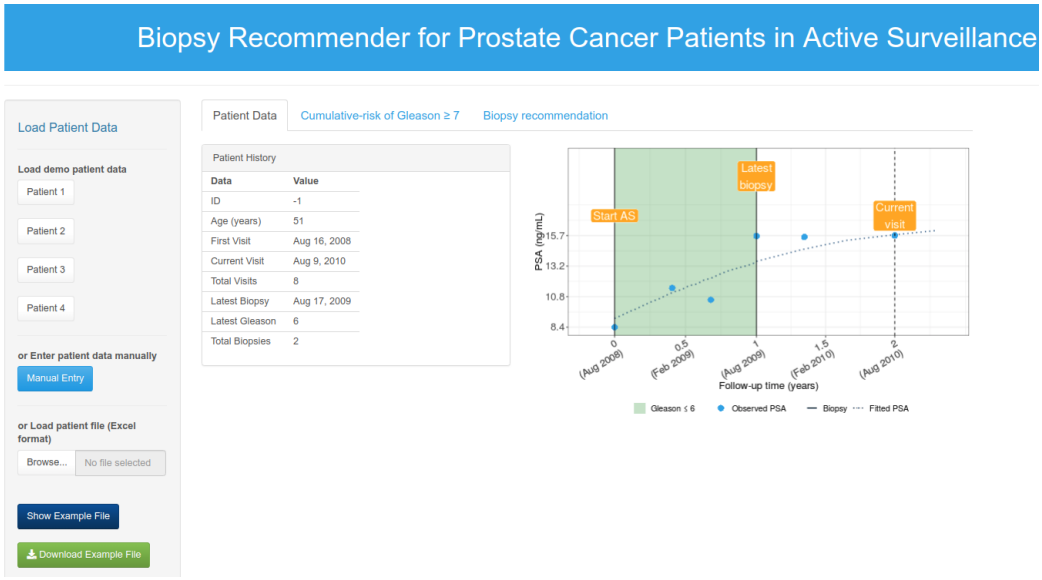

Figure 10: Landing page of the web-application. Panel on the left allows users to load patient data and panel on the right provides information. Patient data can be entered manually, or via Excel files. In addition, demo patient data is already uploaded to assist users in understanding the web-application.

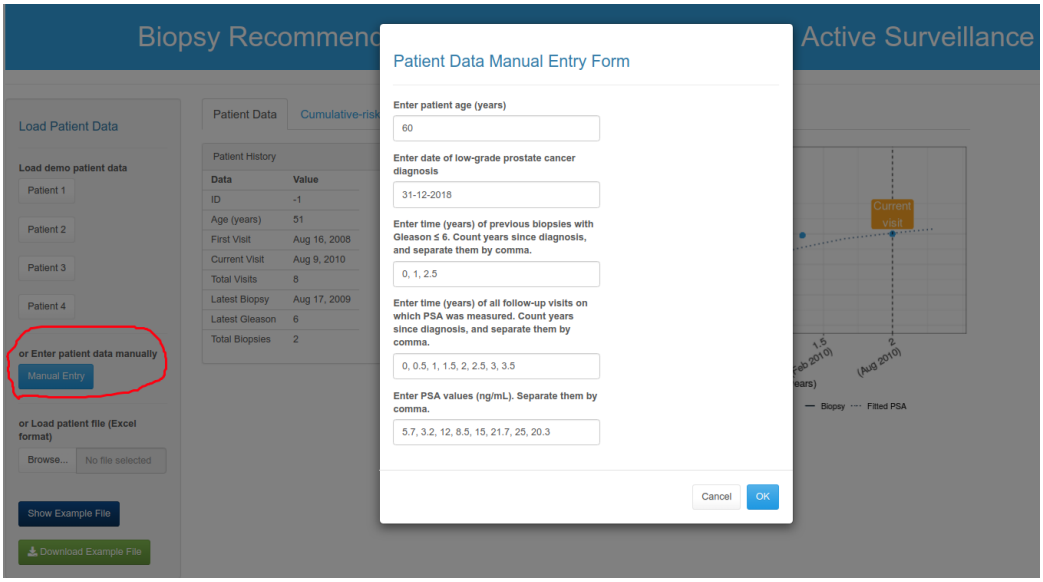

Figure 11: Patient data can be entered manually.

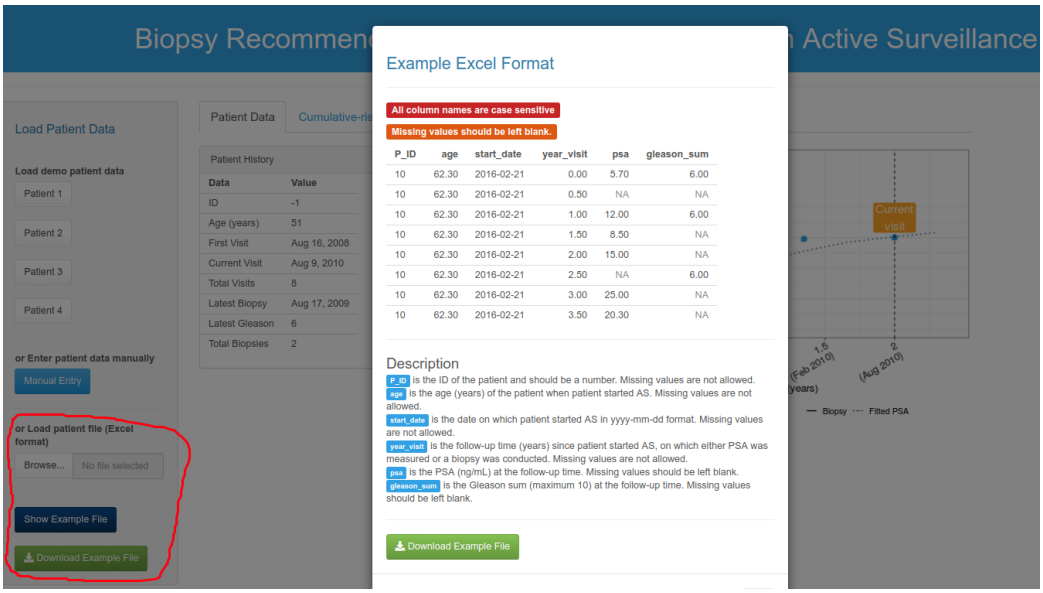

Figure 12: Patient data can be uploaded via Excel sheets. Example Excel sheet format is provided within the web-application. In addition, users can download an Excel template to fill patient data.

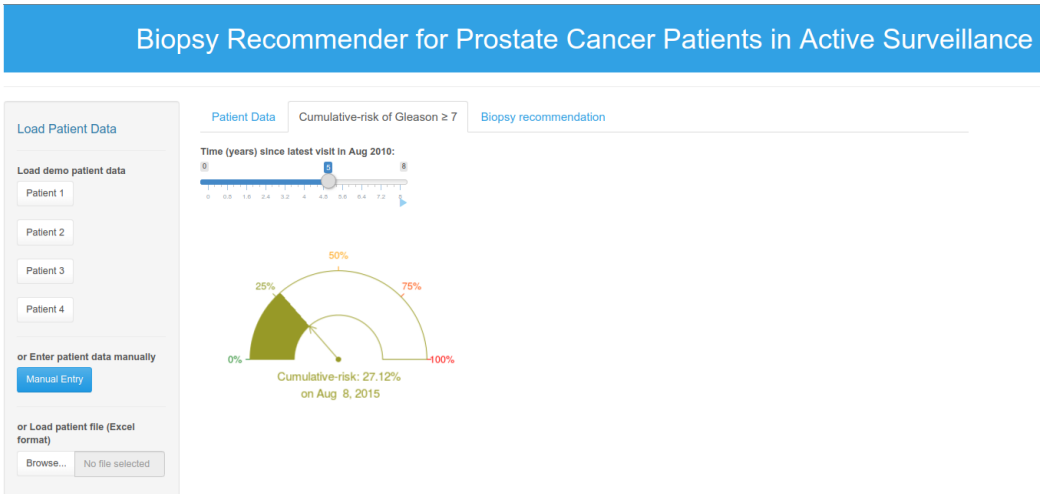

Figure 13: Second tab panel provides patient's personalized cumulative-risk of Gleason $\geq$ 7 since his latest biopsy.

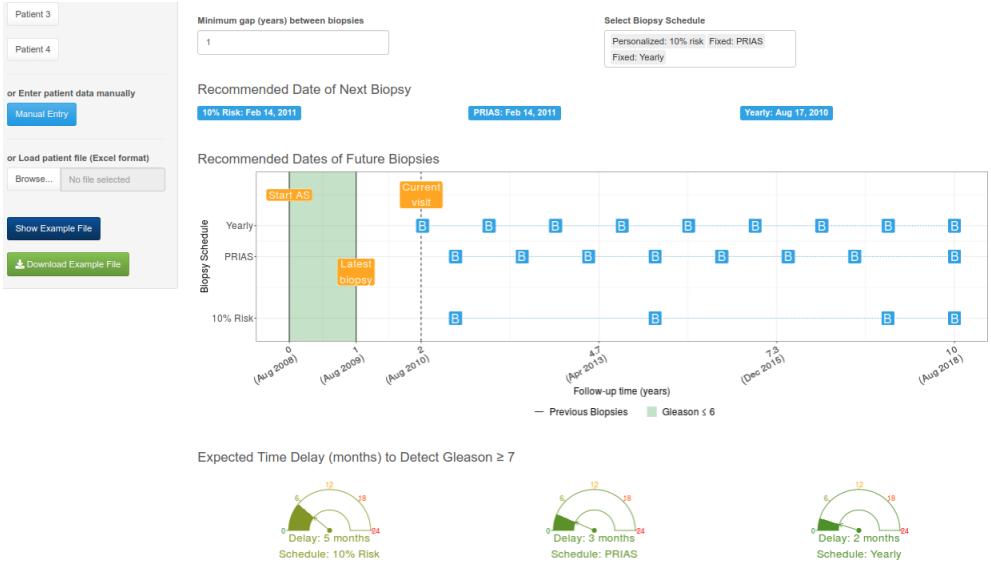

Figure 14: Third tab panel provides personalized and fixed biopsy schedule options as well as the expected time delay in detection of Gleason $\geq$ 7 for each of the schedules.

Appendix E. Source Code

The R code for fitting the joint model to the PRIAS dataset, is at `https://github.com/anirudhtomer/prias/tree/master/src/clinical_gap3`. We refer to this location as 'R_HOME' in the rest of this document.

Appendix E.1. Fitting the Joint Model to the PRIAS dataset

Accessing the dataset: The PRIAS dataset is not openly accessible. However, access to the database can be requested via the contact links at `www.prias-project.org`.

Formatting the dataset: This dataset however is in the so-called wide format and also requires removal of incorrect entries. This can be done via the R script `R_HOME/dataset_cleaning.R`. This will lead to two R objects, namely 'prias_final.id' and 'prias_long_final'. The 'prias_final.id' object contains information about time of GS7 for PRIAS patients. The 'prias_long_final' object contains longitudinal PSA measurements, the time of biopsies and results of biopsies.

Fitting the joint model: We use a joint model for time to event and longitudinal data to model the evolution of PSA measurements over time, and to simultaneously model their association with the risk of GS7. The R package we use for this purpose is called **JMbayes** (https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/JMbayes/JMbayes.pdf). The API we use, however, are currently not hosted on CRAN, and can be found here: `https://github.com/anirudhtomer/JMbayes`. The joint model can be fitted via the script `R_HOME/analysis.R`. It takes roughly 6 hours to run on an Intel core-i5 machine with 4 cores, and 8GB of RAM.

The graphs presented in the main manuscript, and the supplementary material can be generated by the scripts in `R_HOME/plots/`.

Appendix E.2. Validation of Predictions of GS7

Validations can be done using the script `R_HOME/auc_brier/auc_prederr_no_dre.R`. For external validation access to GAP3 database is required.

Appendix E.3. Creating Personalized Schedules of Biopsies

Once a joint model is fitted to the PRIAS dataset, personalized schedules of biopsies based on risk of GS7 for new patients can be developed using the

script `R_HOME/compareSchedules.R`. This script also provides fixed biopsy schedules for the patients. In addition with each schedule, the expected delay in detection of GS7 is also provided.

Appendix E.4. Source Code for Web Application

Source for the shiny web application which provides biopsy schedules for patients can be found at `R_HOME/shinyapp`

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