

# Final Report

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## Exploratory Analysis and Data Visualization

The information of COVID-19 recovery time and other variables (id, gender, race, smoking history, height, weight, body mass index (BMI), history of hypertension and diabetes, systolic blood pressure (SBP), LDL cholesterol (LDL), vaccination status at the time of infection) is collected from two existing cohort studies. Baseline characteristics are presented in Table 1, showing that almost all characteristics are similar between the two study groups, except for COVID-19 recovery time.

Table 1: Baseline Characteristics

Characteristic	A, N = 2,000 <sup>1</sup>	B, N = 1,000 <sup>1</sup>
Age	60.2 / 60.0 (4.5)	60.2 / 60.0 (4.4)
Gender		
Female	1,036 (52%)	508 (51%)
Male	964 (48%)	492 (49%)
Race		
Asian	108 (5.4%)	50 (5.0%)
Black	408 (20%)	196 (20%)
Hispanic	172 (8.6%)	99 (9.9%)
White	1,312 (66%)	655 (66%)
Smoking		
Current smoker	218 (11%)	101 (10%)
Former smoker	557 (28%)	302 (30%)
Never smoked	1,225 (61%)	597 (60%)
Height	169.9 / 169.9 (5.9)	170.0 / 170.0 (6.0)
Weight	79.9 / 79.6 (7.1)	80.0 / 80.0 (7.2)
BMI	27.8 / 27.7 (2.8)	27.8 / 27.6 (2.8)
Hypertension		
Hypertension	1,002 (50%)	490 (49%)
No hypertension	998 (50%)	510 (51%)
Diabetes		
Diabetes	322 (16%)	141 (14%)
No diabetes	1,678 (84%)	859 (86%)
SBP	130.6 / 131.0 (8.0)	130.3 / 130.0 (7.9)
LDL	110.3 / 110.0 (19.8)	110.7 / 110.0 (19.8)
Vaccine		
Not vaccinated	797 (40%)	415 (42%)
Vaccinated	1,203 (60%)	585 (59%)
Severity		
Not severe	1,785 (89%)	894 (89%)
Severe	215 (11%)	106 (11%)
Recovery time	40.4 / 40.0 (11.2)	45.7 / 37.0 (36.6)

<sup>1</sup>Mean / Median (SD); n (%)

## Model Training

In this section, describe the models you used to predict the time to recovery from COVID-19. Briefly state the assumptions made by using the models. Provide a

detailed description of the model training procedure and how you obtained the final model.

## Results

Our final MARS model is as follows:

$\hat{y} = 22.435 + 3.574 \times h(30.3 - \text{bmi}) + 9.783 \times h(\text{bmi} - 30.3) * \text{studyB} + -6.264 \times \text{vaccine} + 2.991 \times h(164 - \text{height}) * h(\text{bmi} - 30.3) * \text{studyB} + 4.898 \times h(\text{bmi} - 25.7) + -2.64 \times h(87.6 - \text{weight}) * h(\text{bmi} - 30.3) * \text{studyB}$ , where  $h(\cdot)$  is a hinge function

Table 2: Summary of the MARS model

Equation	Coefficients
(Intercept)	22.435204
vaccine	-6.264022
$h(\text{bmi}-25.7)$	4.898496
$h(30.3-\text{bmi})$	3.574364
$h(\text{bmi}-30.3) * \text{studyB}$	9.782606
$h(164-\text{height}) * h(\text{bmi}-30.3) * \text{studyB}$	2.990502
$h(87.6-\text{weight}) * h(\text{bmi}-30.3) * \text{studyB}$	-2.640353

The summary of the final MARS model is shown in Table 2. Vaccinated people have 6.264 shorter recovery time (days) compared to non-vaccinated ones, holding other variables constant. The model shows that BMI has two knots (25.7 and 30.3). This can be expressed as follows:

$$\text{Recovery time} = \begin{cases} 22.435 & \text{for BMI} \leq 25.7 \\ 22.435 + 4.898 (\text{BMI} - 25.7) & \text{for } 25.7 \leq \text{BMI} \leq 30.3 \\ 22.435 + 3.574 (30.3 - \text{BMI}) & \text{for } 30.3 \leq \text{BMI} \end{cases}$$

All else being equal, if BMI is in the range (25.7, 30.3), the recovery time increases by 4.898 days for every unit increase in BMI; for those with BMI larger than 30.3, the recovery time increases by 3.574 days for every unit increase in BMI. The model also tells us that there are interactions between  $h(\text{bmi} - 30.3)$  and  $\text{studyB}$ ;  $h(164 - \text{height})$ ,  $h(\text{bmi} - 30.3)$  and  $\text{studyB}$ ;  $h(87.6 - \text{weight})$ ,  $h(\text{bmi} - 30.3)$  and  $\text{studyB}$ . We will discuss this in the later section (“Additional Considerations”). Given the results, we can infer that the followings are the important risk factors for longer recovery time:

- No history of vaccination
- BMI over 25.7
- BMI over 30.3 in Study B
- Height under 164 cm and BMI over 30.3 in Study B

Figure 2 illustrates that study B, BMI, height, weight, and vaccination status have the non-zero importance value in the final model.

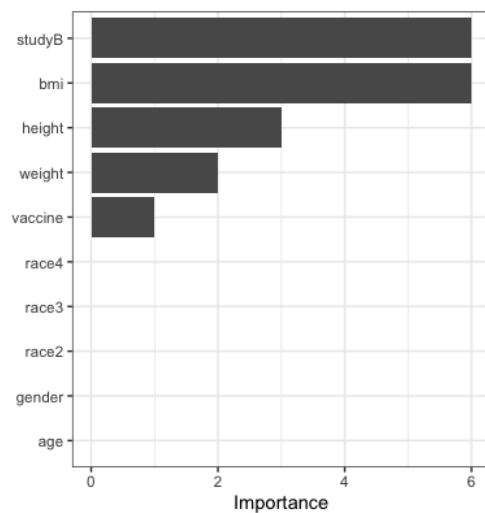


Figure 1: Variance Importance Plot

## Conclusions

## Additional Considerations