

Predictive modeling of treatment outcome in rectal cancer

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Predictive modeling of treatment outcome in rectal cancer

Ruud van Stiphout

Maastricht, 10 april 2014

1. Information from sequential PETCT imaging significantly increases the accuracy of response prediction after chemoradiation in locally advanced rectal cancer (this thesis)
2. Two year disease free survival should also be considered as an intermediate endpoint in future rectal cancer trials (this thesis)
3. Although a nomogram is an easy to use and highly interpretable representation of a statistical prediction model, it's clinical usefulness needs to be carefully assessed (this thesis)
4. It is evident that a holistic approach, using multiple data sources and time points, is required to effectively tailor treatment for rectal cancer (this thesis)
5. All models are wrong, but some are useful (George Box)
6. To call in the statistician after the experiment is done may be no more than asking him to perform a post-mortem examination: he may be able to say what the experiment died of (Ronald Fisher)
7. Big Data is like teenage sex: everyone talks about it, everyone thinks everyone else is doing it, so everyone claims they are doing it (Dan Ariely)
8. Imagination is the source of every form of human achievement. And it's the one thing we are systematically jeopardizing in the way we educate our children and ourselves (Ken Robinson)
9. Basketball is not just a game, it is a way of life (Michael Jordan)
10. Creativity is a choice, not a gift
11. The greatest inspiration is the deadline