

Research Projects in Secondary Cancer Prevention

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Brief Biography

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2011-present, Assistant Prof; School of Public Health, University of Alberta.

2008-2011, Biostatistician, Population Health Research, Cancer Control, Alberta Health Services

2003 MMath-Biostatistics, 2008 PhD-Statistics, U of Waterloo

1999-2001 Lab manager in an Animal behavior lab, University of Guelph, Canada

1999, MSc in Animal Behavior, Michigan State University, USA

1996 BSc in Biochemistry, Nanjing University, China

Outline

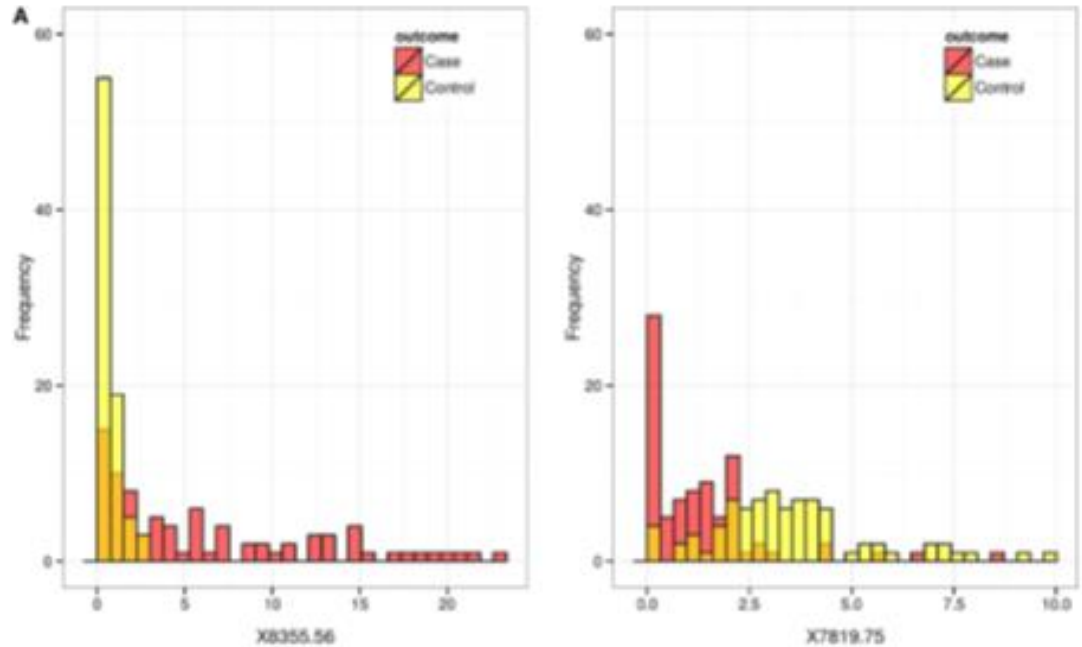
1. Predicting/Detecting the **Rare** Events such as cancer

10-year cancer diagnosis per 1000 person	Colorectal cancer		Breast cancer	Prostate cancer
	Male	Female		
Age 50	6.8	5.2	23	22
Age 60	13	9	35	63

2. Secondary Cancer Prevention – health services research

1.1 Motivating Data

779 potential biomarkers were assessed in 83 late-stage prostate cancer patients and 82 normal subjects. (Adam *et al.* 2002 *Cancer Research*)



1.2 Predicting the Rare Events

- Cancer screening
- Risk prediction – adverse birth outcomes, diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular disease etc.

1.3 Evaluating Prediction Performance for Rare Events

- Threshold Dependent Measure
 - Misclassification rate
 - Sensitivity and Specificity
 - Positive and Negative Predictive Value
- Threshold Independent Measure (Pre-clinical or pre-application stage)
 - Area Under the Receiver Operating Characteristic Curve (AUC or aROC)
 - **Average Positive Predictive Value (AP)**

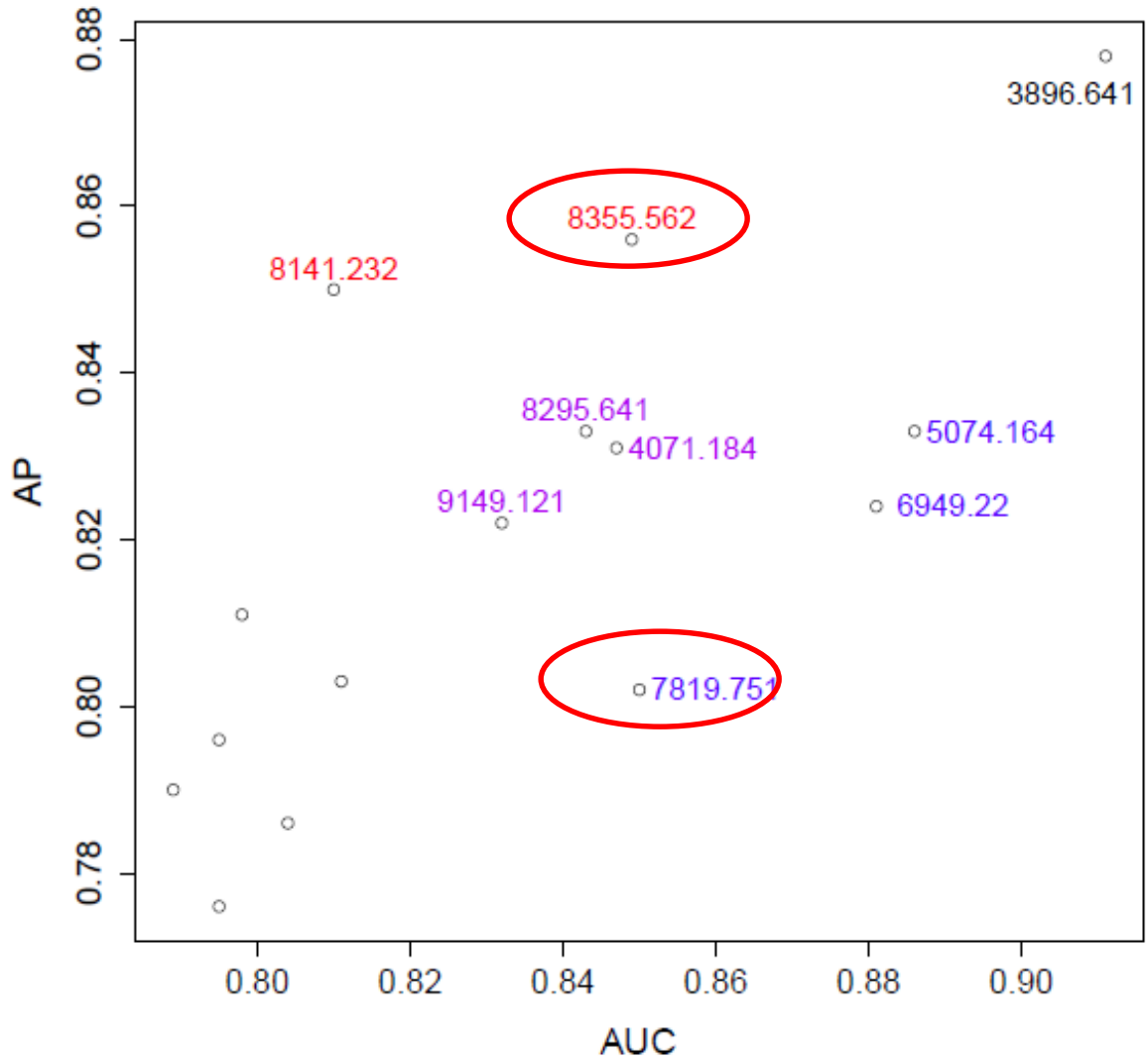
Score	x_1	$>$	x_2	$> \dots >$	x_k	$>$	x_{k+1}	$> \dots >$	x_K	
Partition	R_1		R_2	\dots	R_k		R_{k+1}	\dots	R_K	Total
Class-1	Z_1		Z_2	\dots	Z_k		Z_{k+1}	\dots	Z_K	n_1
Class-0	\bar{Z}_1		\bar{Z}_2	\dots	\bar{Z}_k		\bar{Z}_{k+1}	\dots	\bar{Z}_K	n_0
Total	S_1		S_2	\dots	S_k		S_{k+1}	\dots	S_K	n

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{AP} &= \underbrace{\left[\frac{Z_1}{S_1} \right]}_{w_1} \left[\frac{Z_1}{n_1} \right] + \underbrace{\left[\frac{Z_1 + Z_2}{S_1 + S_2} \right]}_{w_2} \left[\frac{Z_2}{n_1} \right] + \dots + \underbrace{\left[\frac{Z_1 + Z_2 + \dots + Z_K}{S_1 + S_2 + \dots + S_K} \right]}_{w_K} \left[\frac{Z_K}{n_1} \right] \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K w_k \left[\frac{Z_k}{n_1} \right] \end{aligned}$$

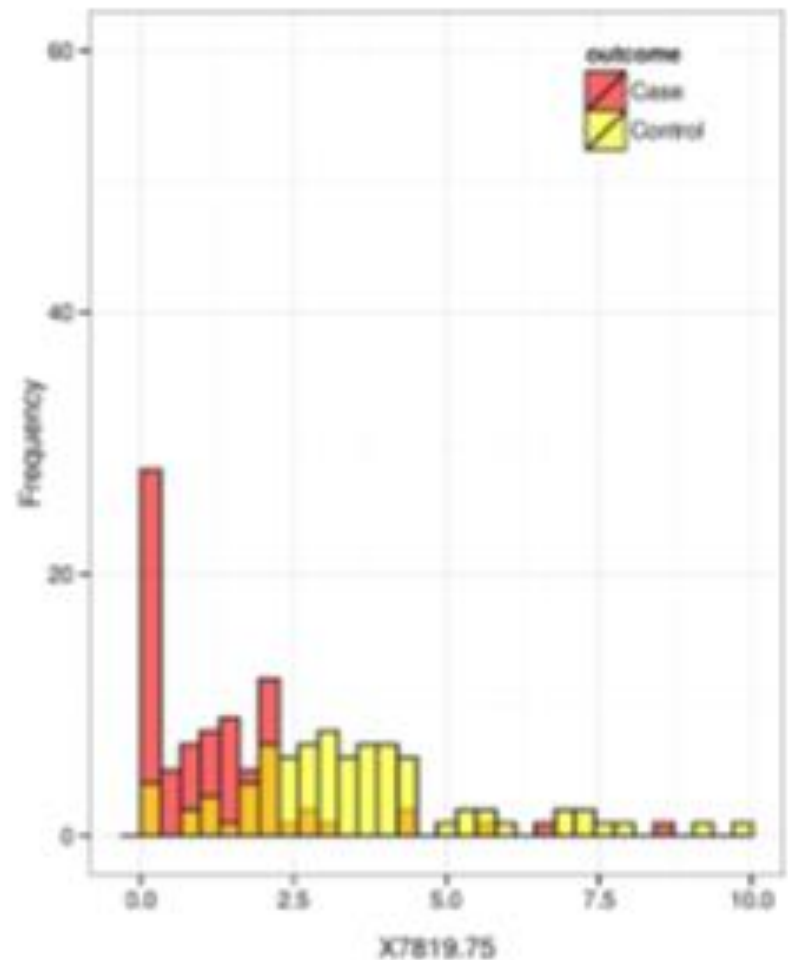
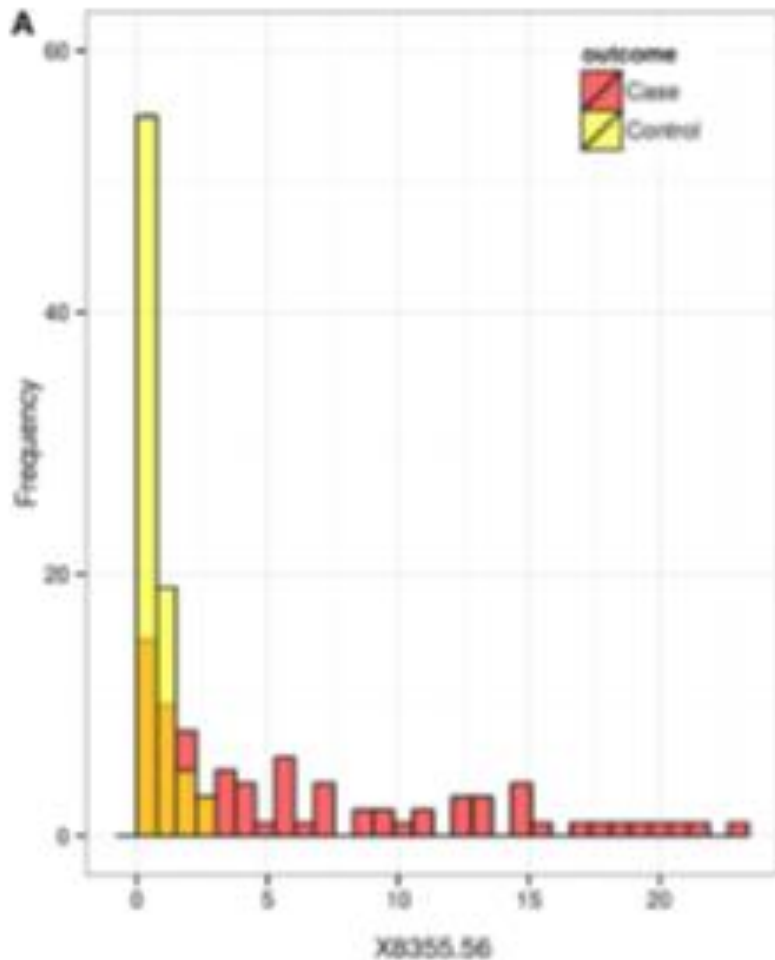
$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{AUC} &= \frac{n}{n_0} \left\{ \underbrace{\left[\frac{S_1 + S_2 + \dots + S_K}{n} \right]}_{w'_1} \left[\frac{Z_1}{n_1} \right] + \underbrace{\left[\frac{S_2 + \dots + S_K}{n} \right]}_{w'_2} \left[\frac{Z_2}{n_1} \right] + \dots + \underbrace{\left[\frac{S_K}{n} \right]}_{w'_K} \left[\frac{Z_K}{n_1} \right] - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{n_1}{n_0} \right) \right\} - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{n_1}{n_0} \right) \\ &= \frac{n}{n_0} \sum_{k=1}^K w'_k \left[\frac{Z_k}{n_1} \right] - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{n_1}{n_0} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Example A: Biomarkers for prostate cancer screening

779 potential biomarkers were assessed in 83 late-stage prostate cancer patients and 82 normal subjects. (Adam *et al.* 2002 *Cancer Research*)



Example A: Two biomarker similar on AUC scale for prostate cancer screening



1.4 An Experiment and Results

- The biomarker study is based on a case-control study (# disease \approx # non-disease); its goal is to identify potential screening markers.
- How AP and the ranking of biomarkers is affected when the incidence is much lower as in a screening setting?

Inflate the controls by replicating them

Biomarker	AUC	AP		
	$n_0 \times 1$ $\pi = 0.5$	$n_0 \times 1$ $\pi = 0.5$	$n_0 \times 10$ $\pi = 0.1$	$n_0 \times 100$ $\pi = 0.01$
8355.562	0.849	0.856	0.606	0.571
7819.751	0.850	0.802	0.370	0.062

Example B: Two technology for Breast cancer screening

42,760 screening participants underwent two screening technology, 335 were diagnosed with breast cancer at 15 months follow-up.

(Pisano et al. 2005 *New England Journal of Medicine*)

Malignancy score		7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Total
Digital M	Category	11	29	69	1061	2224	6588	32588	42570
	Total								
	Cancers	10	18	25	85	49	25	122	334
Film M	Category	17	29	70	942	2291	6910	32486	42745
	Total								
	Cancers	13	24	25	74	35	33	131	335

1.4B Results

Given that 335 breast cancer diagnosed in 42,760 screening participants at 15 months follow-up, the cumulative incidence π is 0.783%.

Seven-point Malignancy Scale

\widehat{AUC} (s.e.)

\widehat{AP} (s.e.)

Film mammography

0.735 (0.012)

0.166 (0.022)

Digital mammography

0.753 (0.012)

0.144 (0.021)

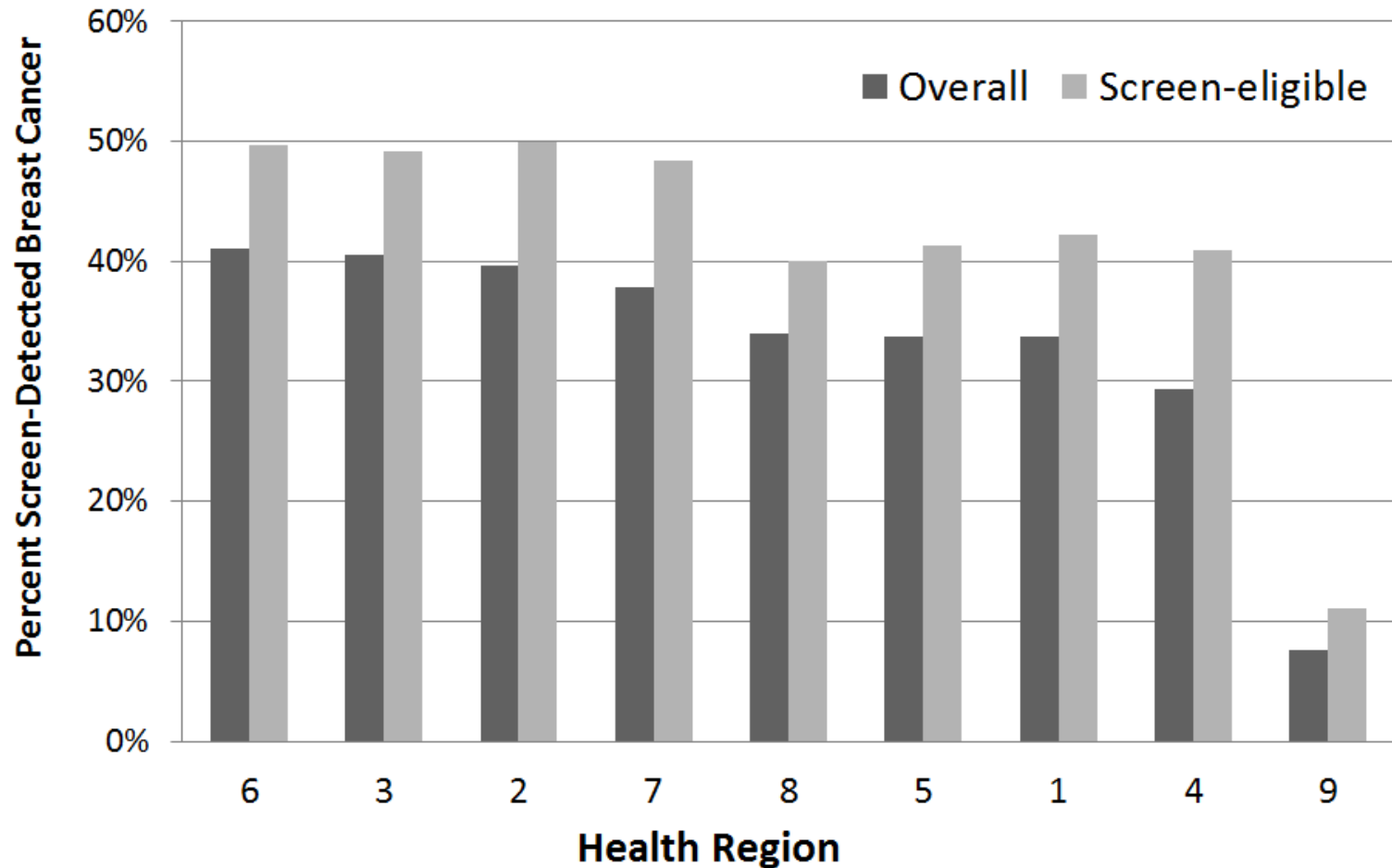
Remark: Resampling method can be used for the inference of the difference in AP when we have paired data.

2. Breast Cancer Diagnostic Care in Alberta

- Objectives
 - The proportion of screen vs. symptom-detected breast cancers
 - Time to diagnosis stratified by mode of detection
 - Assess the relationship of several demographic, clinical, and healthcare system factors to the first two objectives
- Study Population

Female residents of Alberta with histologically-confirmed first primary breast cancer, diagnosed between 2004-2010.

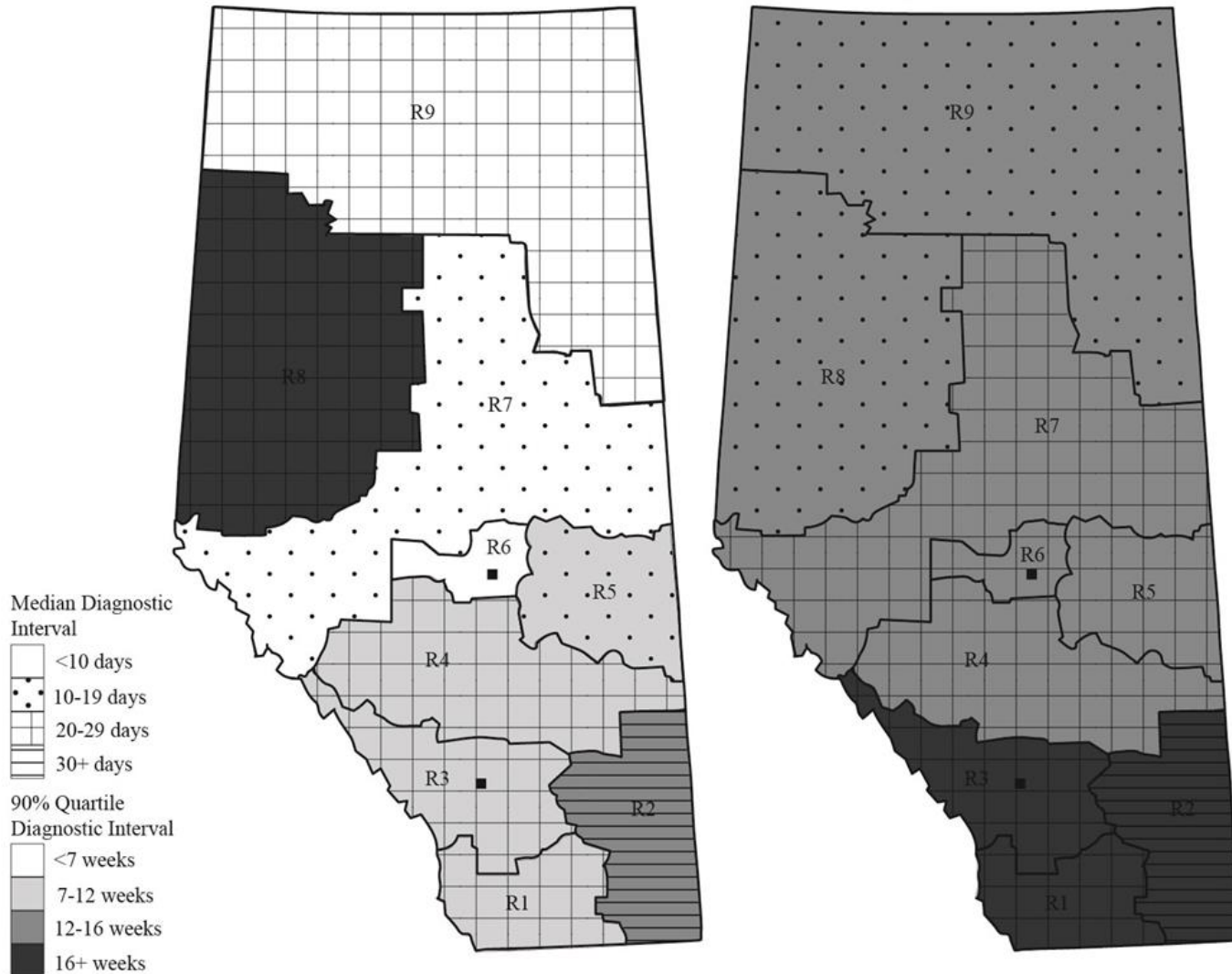
2.1 Detection Mode by age and RHA



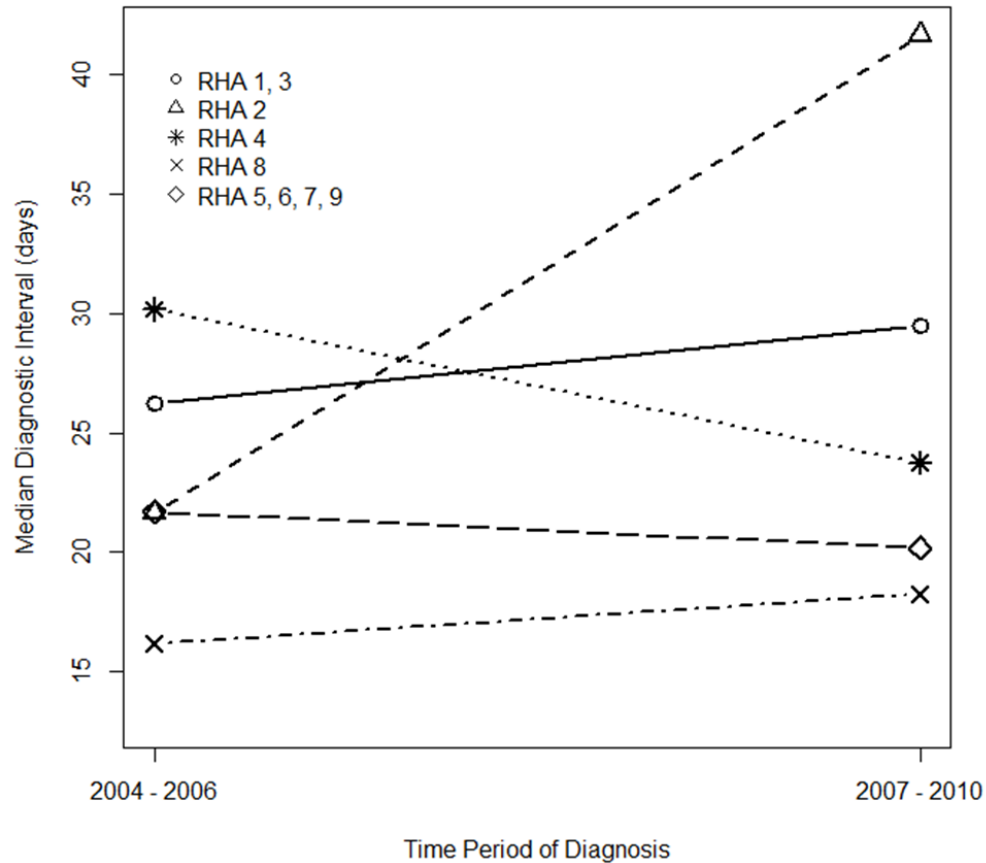
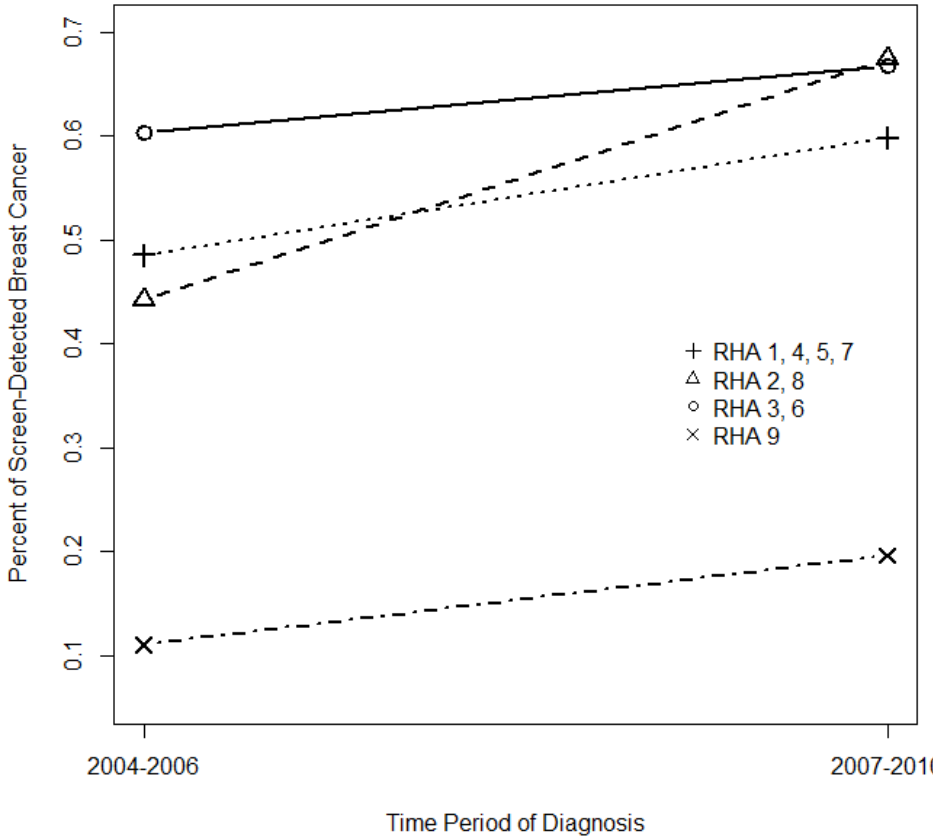
2.2 Diagnostic interval by detection mode and RHA

Screen-detected

Symptom-detected

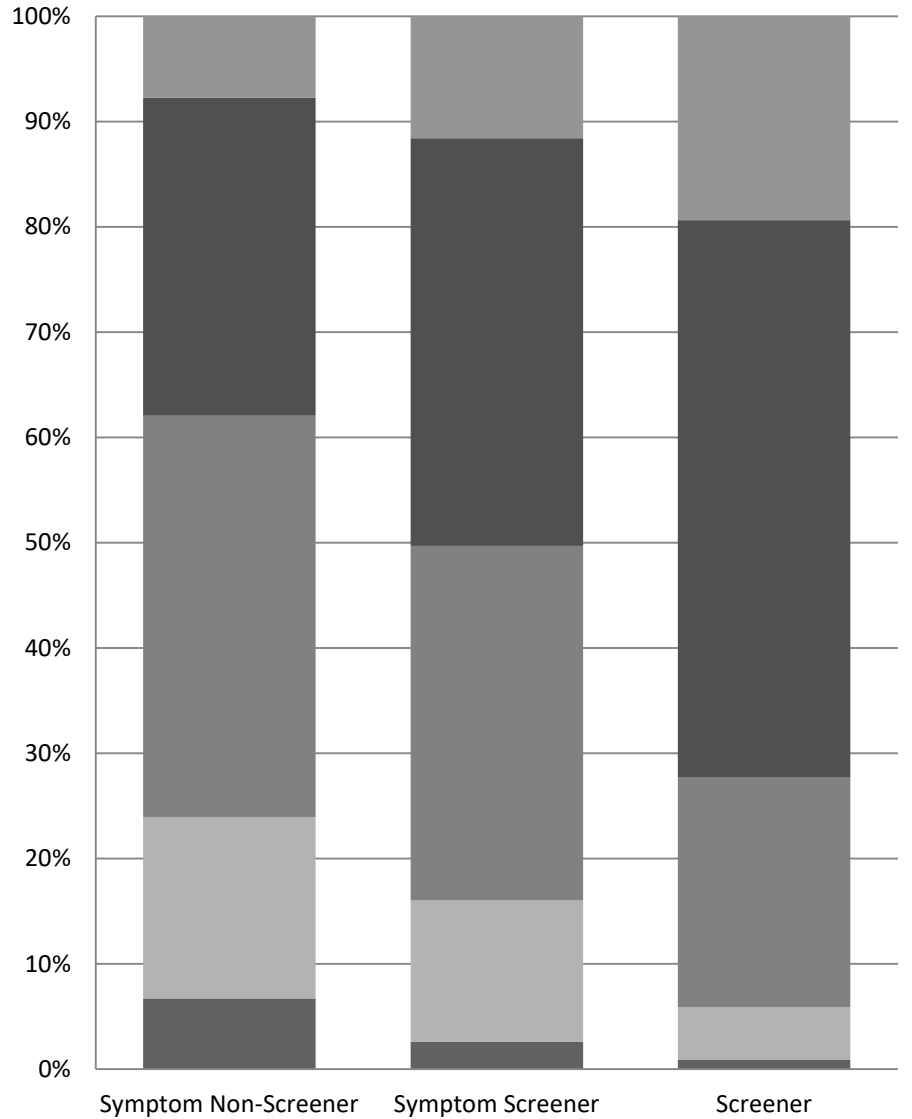


2.3 RHA Interact with time period

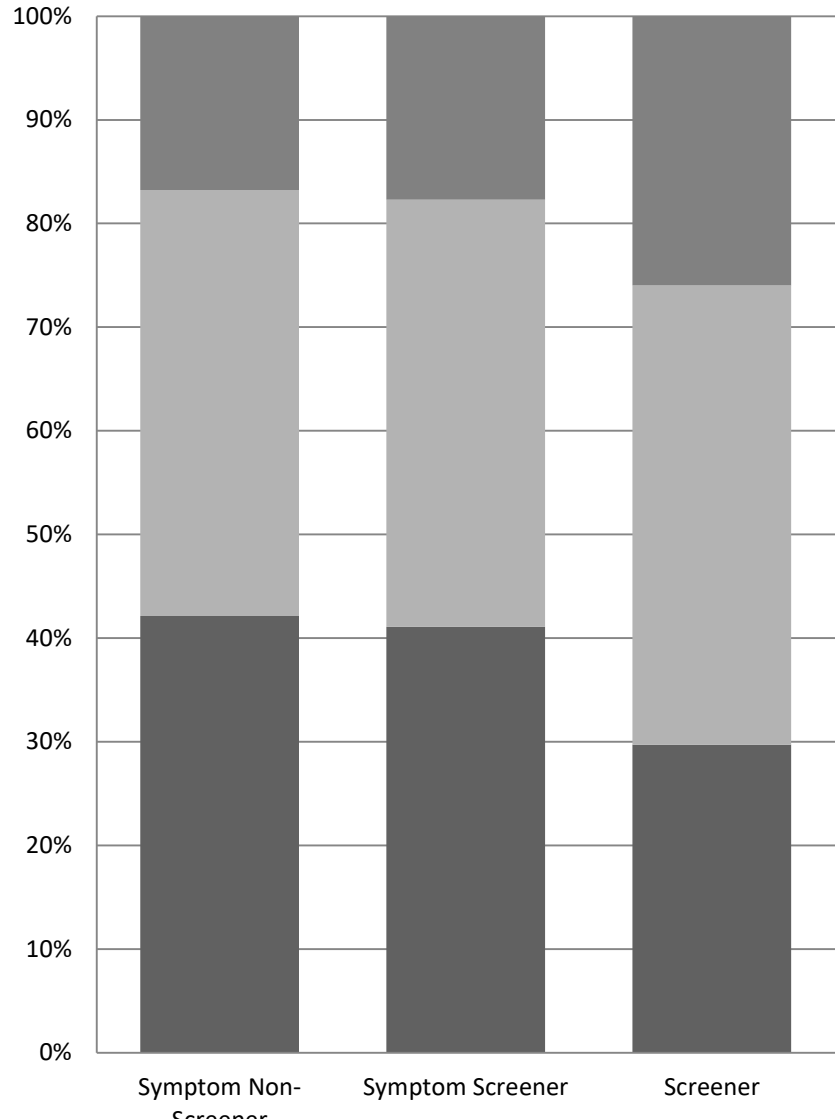


Cancer Stage

Histological Grade



- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4



- 1
- 2
- 3

N 2253 (48%) 811 (13%) 2917 (39%)

N 2241 774 2763