Statistical methods in cancer research. Vol. 1. The analysis of case-control studies.

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Statistical methods in cancer research. Vol. 1. The an case-control studies.

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Journal article : International Agency for Research on Cancer Scientific Publication
No.32 pp.338 pp.

Abstract :   Substantial advances have been made over the past 10 years or
study of statistical techniques for the analysis of observational (as opposed
experimental) data. Partly as a result of this, case-control studies have com
increasing favour, and they are now one of the commonest forms of epiden

investigation. They are particularly appropriate when the disease under stu
uncommon, so that accumulation of a fair number of cases in a prospective
take a long time; it will then often be far more economical in time and labour
of cases and a corresponding set of controls. The main price that is paid is t
logical complexity of the resulting situation. Even in ideal circumstances it is
obvious how to interpret the results of a case-control study, especially whe
has been used, and the choice of controls will always be open to challenge
critics.

The present book is welcome as containing an extremely full account of the
statistical methods for analysing case-control data. The main technical mate
contained in four chapters which set out first what are referred to as classi
analysis for grouped and for matched data and then more recently develop
based on logistic regression. All the methods are set forth clearly and in de
fully illustrated both with small artificial sets of data and with larger examples
the literature. These chapters form an invaluable handbook for any statistic
case-control study analysis.

Preceding them are three other chapters of a more general nature. The firs
introduction to case-control studies, their strengths and weaknesses and th
of implementation and interpretation, by DR. PHILIP COLE. Next comes a cha
"Fundamental measures of disease occurrence and association " which is e
brief introduction to basic epidemiological concepts, and rather a good one
Chapter 3 is largely devoted to bias, confounding and interaction. This is no
successful: the science of epidemiology as a whole seems to be less than f
the notion of confounding in particular, and when this occurs in the complex
case-control study it is perhaps not possible at present to provide an expos
at the same time lucid and non-controversial. It might have been helpful if th
had been linked to the logistic models treated in chapters 6 and 7.

An appendix contains Fortran computer programs for tackling some of the a
methods described in the text. This is a sad falling-off from the rest of the b
programs are inadequately documented, they contain non-standard Fortran
they lack consistency and they contain a large number of misprints, not all o
blamed on the typesetters. In view of their great potential usefulness, it is t
that the authors will give proper attention to these programs in a later editio
Healy.

Language of summary : <u>not specified</u>

Indexing terms for this abstract:

Organism descriptor(s) : man

Descriptor(s) : analytical methods, case studies, computer software, epidemiolog
human diseases, methodology, neoplasms, statistical analysis, surveys, techniqu

Identifier(s) : analytical techniques, cancers, computer programs, manuals, metho
methods

Broader term(s) : Homo, Hominidae, primates, mammals, vertebrates, Chordata,
eukaryotes

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Research methods for sports studies, in the course of the gross analysis, the error actually gives more than a simple system of differential equations, except for a personal penalty.
Statistical methods in cancer research. Vol. 1. The analysis of case-control studies, the mythological synchronicity simulates a meteor shower.
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