

Package ‘BCRA’

July 21, 2025

Type Package

Title Breast Cancer Risk Assessment

Version 2.1.2

Date 2020-6-30

Author Fanni Zhang

Maintainer Fanni Zhang <rstatpackages@gmail.com>

Description Functions provide risk projections of invasive breast cancer based on Gail model according to National Cancer Institute's Breast Cancer Risk Assessment Tool algorithm for specified race/ethnic groups and age intervals.

Gail MH, Brinton LA, et al (1989) <[doi:10.1093/jnci/81.24.1879](https://doi.org/10.1093/jnci/81.24.1879)>.

Marthew PB, Gail MH, et al (2016) <[doi:10.1093/jnci/djw215](https://doi.org/10.1093/jnci/djw215)>.

License GPL (>= 2)

NeedsCompilation no

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2020-07-10 15:40:06 UTC

Contents

BCRA-package	2
absolute.risk	3
BrCa_1_AR	4
BrCa_beta	5
BrCa_lambda1	5
BrCa_lambda2	6
check.summary	7
error.table	8
error.table.all	8
exampledata	9
list.constants	10
recode.check	11
relative.risk	13
risk.summary	14

Index	16
--------------	-----------

Description

This package is to project absolute risk of invasive breast cancer according to NCI's Breast Cancer Risk Assessment Tool (BCRAT) algorithm for specified race/ethnic groups and age intervals. The updated version 2.0 includes the new Hispanic model.

Details

This package can be used to estimate the risk of developing breast cancer over a predetermined time interval with risk factors. As the same as Breast Cancer Risk Assessment SAS Macro, the users can specify the time interval as appropriate, not only limited to the 5 years risk prediction available with BCRAT.

The main function in this package is `absolute.risk`, which is defined based on a statistical model known as the "Gail model". Parameters and constants needed in this function include initial and projection age, recoded covariates using function `recode.check`, relative risks of BrCa at age "<50" and ">=50" obtained from function `relative.risk` as well as other known constants listed from function `list.constants` like BrCa composite incidences, competing hazards, 1-attributable risk using in NCI BrCa Risk Assessment Tool (NCI BCRAT). With risk factors and projection interval ages for a group of women, the function `absolute.risk` will return the corresponding absolute risk projections. If the function returns any missing values, the function `error.table` or `error.table.all` is used to find where the errors occurred. The function `check.summary` can give a quick check for errors of input file and missing values of risks.

For further analysis, a data frame is created from the function `risk.summary`, which includes age, duration of the projection time interval, covariates and the projected risk.

The version 2.0 includes absolute risk projections for Hispanic women (US born and Foreign born) based on race specific RR risk models developed on the San Francisco Bay Area Breast Cancer Study (SFBCS). Race specific attributable risks, breast cancer composite incidences and competing hazards are added to the updated package.

Author(s)

Fanni Zhang <zhangf@imsweb.com>

References

Banegas MP, John EM, Slattery ML, Gomez SL, Yu M, LaCroix AZ, Pee D, Chlebowski RT, Hines LM, Thompson CA, Gail MH. Projecting Individualized Absolute Invasive Breast Cancer Risk in US Hispanic Women. JNCI 2016; 109.

Matsuno RK, Costantino JP, Ziegler RG, Anderson GL, Li H, Pee D, Gail MH. Projecting individualized absolute invasive breast cancer risk in asian and pacific islander american women. JNCI 103(12):951-61, 2011.

Gail MH, Costantino JP, Pee D, Bondy M, Newman L, Selvan M, Anderson GL, Malone KE, Marchbanks PA, McCaskill-Stevens W, Norman SA, Simon MS, Spirtas R, Ursin G, Berstein L.

Projecting individualized absolute invasive breast cancer risk in African American women. JNCI 99(23):1782-92, 2007.

Costantino J, Gail MH, Pee D, Anderson S, Redmond CK, Benichou J, Wieand HS. Validation studies for models to project the risk of invasive and total breast cancer. JNCI 91(18):1541-48, 1999.

Gail MH, Brinton LA, Byar DP, Corle DK, Green SB, Shairer C, Mulvihill JJ. Projecting individualized probabilities of developing breast cancer for white females who are being examined annually. JNCI 81(24): 1879-86, 1989.

absolute.risk	<i>Estimate absolute risks</i>
---------------	--------------------------------

Description

A function to estimate absolute risks of developing breast cancer

Usage

```
absolute.risk(data, Raw_Ind=1, Avg_White=0)
```

Arguments

data	A data set containing all the required input data needed to perform risk projections, such as initial age, projection age, BrCa relative risk covariates and race. See <code>exampledata</code> for details.
Raw_Ind	The raw file indicator with default value 1. Raw_Ind=1 means RR covariates are in raw/original format. Raw_Ind=0 means RR covariates have already been re-coded to 0, 1, 2 or 3.
Avg_White	Calculation indicator. Avg_White=0, calculate absolute risks; Avg_White=1, calculate average absolute risks based on the rates for average non-hispanic white women and average other (native american) women. The default value is 0.

Details

For the projection of absolute risks, this function is defined based on Gail Model. Parameters and constants needed in this function include initial and projection age, recoded covariates from function `recode.check`, relative risks of BrCa at age "<50" and ">=50" from function `relative.risk` as well as other known constants like BrCa composite incidences, competing hazards, 1-attributable risk using in NCI BrCa Risk Assessment Tool (NCI BCRAT).

Value

A vector which returns absolute risk values when Avg_White=0 or average absolute risk values when Avg_White=1.

See Also

[recode.check](#), [relative.risk](#)

Examples

```
data(exampladata)
# calculate absolute risk
absolute.risk(exampladata)
# calculate average absolute risk
Avg_White <- 1
absolute.risk(exampladata, Raw_Ind=1, Avg_White)
```

BrCa_1_AR	<i>Breast cancer 1-Attributable Risk</i>
-----------	------------------------------------------

Description

1-Attributable Risk

Usage

```
data("BrCa_1_AR")
```

Format

A data frame with 2 observations on the following 5 variables.

- Wh.Gail White
- AA.CARE African-American
- HU.Gail Hispanic-American (US born)
- NA.Gail Other (Native American and unknown race)
- HF.Gail Hispanic-American (Foreign born)
- Asian.AABCS Asian-American

BrCa_beta	<i>Breast cancer beta</i>
-----------	---------------------------

Description

The logistic regression coefficients derived from the Gail model.

Usage

```
data("BrCa_beta")
```

Format

A data frame with 6 observations on the following 5 variables.

Wh.Gail White, Gail model

AA.CARE African-American, Care model

HU.Gail Hispanic-American (US born), Gail model

NA.Gail Other (Native American and unknown race), Gail model

HF.Gail Hispanic-American (Foreign born), Gail model

Asian.AABCS Asian-American, AABCS model

BrCa_lambda1	<i>Breast cancer composite incidences</i>
--------------	-------------------------------------------

Description

Breast cancer composite incidences for different races and age groups from 20 to 90 by 5 years.

Usage

```
data("BrCa_lambda1")
```

Format

A data frame with 14 age groups on the following 12 variables.

Wh.1983_87 White SEER 1983:1987

AA.1994_98 African-American SEER 1994:1998

HU.1995_04 Hispanic-American (US born) 1995:2004

NA.1983_87 Native American and unknown race 1983:1987

HF.1995_04 Hispanic-American (Foreign born) 1995:2004

Ch.1998_02 Chinese-American SEER 18 1998:2002

Ja.1998_02 Japanese-American SEER 18 1998:2002
 Fi.1998_02 Filipino-American SEER 18 1998:2002
 Hw.1998_02 Hawaiian SEER 18 1998:2002
 oP.1998_02 Other Pacific Islander SEER 18 1998:2002
 oA.1998_02 Other Asian SEER 1998:2002
 Wh_Avg.1992_96 Average White SEER 1992:1996

BrCa_lambda2	<i>Breast cancer competing mortality</i>
--------------	------------------------------------------

Description

Breast cancer competing mortality for different races and age groups from 20 to 90 by 5 years.

Usage

```
data("BrCa_lambda2")
```

Format

A data frame with 14 age groups on the following 12 variables.

Wh.1983_87 White SEER 1983:1987
 AA.1994_98 African-American SEER 1994:1998
 HU.1995_04 Hispanic-American (US born) 1995:2004
 NA.1983_87 Native American and unknown race 1983:1987
 HF.1995_04 Hispanic-American (Foreign born) 1995:2004
 Ch.1998_02 Chinese-American SEER 18 1998:2002
 Ja.1998_02 Japanese-American SEER 18 1998:2002
 Fi.1998_02 Filipino-American SEER 18 1998:2002
 Hw.1998_02 Hawaiian SEER 18 1998:2002
 oP.1998_02 Other Pacific Islander SEER 18 1998:2002
 oA.1998_02 Other Asian SEER 1998:2002
 Wh_Avg.1992_96 Average White SEER 1992:1996

check.summary	<i>Summarize the error indicators, relative risks and absolute risks</i>
---------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------

Description

A function to show descriptive statistics by applying function mean and sd to the quantities Error_Ind, AbsRisk, RR_Star1 and RR_Star2.

Usage

```
check.summary(data, Raw_Ind=1, Avg_White=0)
```

Arguments

data	A data set containing all the required input data needed to perform risk projections, such as initial age, projection age, BrCa relative risk covariates and race. See <code>exampledata</code> for details.
Raw_Ind	The raw file indicator with default value 1. Raw_Ind=1 means RR covariates are in raw/original format. Raw_Ind=0 means RR covariates have already been re-coded to 0, 1, 2 or 3.
Avg_White	Calculation indicator. Avg_White=0, calculate absolute risks; Avg_White=1, calculate average absolute risks based on the rates for average non-hispanic white women and average other (native american) women. The default value is 0.

Details

When the mean and standard deviation for the variable Error_Ind is 0, implies that no errors have not been found. Otherwise when the mean and std for Error_Ind is not 0, implies that errors have been found. When errors are found, the number of records with errors is the count associated with AbsRisk listed under NMiss (number of missing).

Value

A summary table for error indicators, relative risks and absolute risks

See Also

[recode.check](#), [relative.risk](#), [absolute.risk](#)

error.table

List the records and errors for IDs with missing absolute risks

Description

A function to list the records and errors for IDs with missing absolute risks. For each of the records with error, the record is listed followed by a line which gives some indication as to where the error occurred. Relative risks and risk pattern numbers are also included.

Usage

```
error.table(data, Raw_Ind=1)
```

Arguments

data	A data set containing all the required input data needed to perform risk projections, such as initial age, projection age, BrCa relative risk covariates and race. See <code>exampledata</code> for details.
Raw_Ind	The raw file indicator with default value 1. Raw_Ind=1 means RR covariates are in raw/original format. Raw_Ind=0 means RR covariates have already been re-coded to 0, 1, 2 or 3.

Value

A data frame listing the raw records, errors, relative risks and pattern numbers for IDs with missing absolute risks. If there is nothing wrong with the input data, the function will return "NO ERROR!".

See Also

[recode.check](#), [error.table.all](#)

error.table.all

List all records and errors

Description

A function to list all records with both raw values and recoded values (or indications for errors). For each of the records, the record is listed followed by a line which gives some indication as to where the error occurred.

Usage

```
error.table.all(data, Raw_Ind=1)
```


Arguments

data	A data set containing all the required input data needed to perform risk projections, such as initial age, projection age, BrCa relative risk covariates and race. See exampledata for details.
Raw_Ind	The raw file indicator with default value 1. Raw_Ind=1 means RR covariates are in raw/original format. Raw_Ind=0 means RR covariates have already been re-coded to 0, 1, 2 or 3.

Value

A data frame listing all records and errors. If there is nothing wrong with the input data, the function will return "NO ERROR!".

See Also

[recode.check, error.table](#)

exampledata	<i>Example data set</i>
-------------	-------------------------

Description

A data set containing all the required input data needed to perform risk projections, such as initial age, projection age, BrCa relative risk covariates and race.

Usage

data("exampledata")

Format

- A data frame with 26 observations on the following 9 variables.
- ID Woman's ID, positive integer 1, 2, 3,...
 - T1 Initial age, all real numbers T1 in [20, 90).
 - T2 BrCa projection age, all real numbers T2 in (20,90] such that T1<T2.
 - N_Biop The number of biopsies, 0, 1, 2,..., 99=unk (99 recoded to 0).
 - HypPlas Did biopsy display atypical hyperplasia? 0=no, 1=yes, 99=unk or not applicable.
 - AgeMen Age at menarchy, less than or equal to initial age, 99=unk.
 - Age1st Age at first live birth, greater or equal to age at menarchy and less than or equal to initial age, 98=nulliparous, 99=unk.
 - N_Rels The number of 1st degree relatives with BrCa, 0, 1, 2,... 99=unk.
 - Race Race, positive integer 1, 2, 3,...,11. See details.

Details

1=Wh	White 1983-87 SEER rates (rates used in NCI BCRAT)
2=AA	African-American
3=HU	Hispanic-American (US born) 1995-04
4=NA	Other (Native American and unknown race)
5=HF	Hispanic-American (Foreign born) 1995-04
6=Ch	Chinese-American
7=Ja	Japanese-American
8=Fi	Filipino-American
9=Hw	Hawaiian-American
10=oP	Other Pacific Islander
11=oA	Other Asian

list.constants	<i>List all constants required for BrCa absolute risk projections</i>
----------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------

Description

A function to create a text file under user's working directory which contains all constants required for BrCa absolute risk projections.

Usage

```
list.constants(BrCa_lambda1, BrCa_lambda2, BrCa_beta, BrCa_1_AR)
```

Arguments

BrCa_lambda1	Breast Cancer Composite Incidences
BrCa_lambda2	Breast Cancer Competing Mortality
BrCa_beta	The logistic regression coefficients (beta) derived from the Gail model
BrCa_1_AR	1-Attributable Risk

Details

See "BrCa_lambda1.rda", "BrCa_lambda2.rda", "BrCa_beta.rda", "BrCa_1_AR.rda" in package data folder.

Value

A text file "list_all_constants.txt" exported under user's working directory for reading convenience.

recode.check	<i>Recode and check the relative risk covariate values</i>
--------------	------------------------------------------------------------

Description

A function to recode the relative risk covariates and check errors.

Usage

```
recode.check(data, Raw_Ind=1)
```

Arguments

data	A data set containing all the required input data needed to perform risk projections, such as initial age, projection age, BrCa relative risk covariates and race. See <code>exampledata</code> for details.
Raw_Ind	The raw file indicator with default value 1. Raw_Ind=1 means RR covariates are in raw/original format. Raw_Ind=0 means RR covariates have already been re-coded to 0, 1, 2 or 3.

Details

This function is to recode the following relative risk covariates. Recoded RR covariates are named as NB_Cat, AM_Cat, AF_Cat and NR_Cat for N_Biop, AgeMen, Age1st and N_Rels, respectively.

N_Biop:	The number of biopsies.
AgeMen:	Age at menarchy.
Age1st:	Age at first live birth.
N_Rels:	The number of first degree relatives with BrCa.

See the following table for recoding details.

Covariate	Raw Value	Recoded to
N_Biop	0 or 99 (unk or not applicable)	0
	1	1
	2,3,4 ... and not 99	2
AgeMen	14,15,16 ... or 99 (unk)	0
	12,13	1
	11 and younger	2
Age1st	19 and younger or 99 (unk)	0
	20,21,22,23,24	1
	25,26,27,28,29 or 98 (nulliparous)	2
	30,31,32 ... and not 98 and not 99	3

N_Rels	0 or 99 (unk)	0
	1	1
	2,3,4 ... and not 99	2

This function is also used to check consistency and errors of input data. Let `set_T1_missing` and `set_T2_missing` be the checking variables for T1 and T2. The constraint on T1 and T2 is $20 \leq T1 < T2 \leq 90$. If it is violated, `set_T1_missing` and `set_T2_missing` and the absolute risk will be set to the missing value NA.

Let `RacCat` be the checking variable for Race. If the Race value is not included in the 11 races defined, the absolute risk will be set to the missing value NA and `RacCat` will be set to "U" (undefined). The corresponding character of Race `CharRace` will be set to "?".

Let `set_HyperP_missing` and `set_R_Hyp_missing` be the checking variables for `HypPlas` and `R_Hyp`. Consistency patterns for the number of Biopsies and Hyperplasia are:

- Requirement (A) `N_Biops`=0 or 99, then `HypPlas` MUST = 99 (not applicable).
- Requirement (B) `N_Biops`>0 and <99, then `HypPlas` = 0, 1 or 99.

If ANY of the above 2 REQUIREMENTS is violated, `NB_Cat`, `set_HyperP_missing` and `set_R_Hyp_missing` will be set to the corresponding character "A" or "B" and the absolute risk will be set to the missing value NA. The consequences to the relative risk (RR) for the above two requirements are:

(A) `N_Biops`=0 or 99, `HypPlas`=99 (not applicable) inflates RR by 1.00.

(B) `N_Biops`>0 and <99, `HypPlas`=0 (no) inflates RR by 0.93;

`N_Biops`>0 and <99, `HypPlas`=1 (yes) inflates RR by 1.82;

`N_Biops`>0 and <99, `HypPlas`=99 (unk) inflates RR by 1.00.

For remaining relative risk covariates, `AgeMen`, `Age1st` and `N_Rels`:

- `AgeMen` Age at menarchy must be positive integer less than or equal to initial age T1.
NOTE: (1) For African-American women `AgeMen` ≤ 11 are grouped with `AgeMen`=12 or 13. (2) For US Born Hispanic women `AgeMen` is not included in the RR model and all values for this variable are recoded to 0.
- `Age1st` Age at 1st live birth must be positive integer greater than equal to `AgeMen` and less than or equal to initial age T1.
NOTE: (1) For African-American women, `Age1st` is not included in the RR model and all values for this variable are recoded to 0. (2) For US Born and Foreign Born Hispanic women, the recoding for this variable follows:

<code>Age1st</code>	19 and younger or 99 (unk)	0
	20 - 29	1
	30+ or 98 (nulliparous) and not 99	2

N_Rels The number of 1st degree relatives with BrCa must be 0,1,2....
 NOTE: For Asian-Americans Race=6-11 and Hispanic-Americans (US and foreign born), the number of 1st degree relative coded value of 2 gets grouped with 1.

Value

A data frame containing the error indicators, recoded covariates as well as other checking variables defined for checking the consistency of the input data.

See Also

[error.table.all](#), [error.table](#)

Examples

```
data(exempladata)
recode.check(exempladata)
```

relative.risk	<i>Estimate relative risks</i>
---------------	--------------------------------

Description

A function to estimate relative risks for risk factor combinations

Usage

```
relative.risk(data, Raw_Ind=1)
```

Arguments

data	A data set containing all the required input data needed to perform risk projections, such as initial age, projection age, BrCa relative risk covariates and race. See <code>exempladata</code> for details.
Raw_Ind	The raw file indicator with default value 1. <code>Raw_Ind=1</code> means RR covariates are in raw/original format. <code>Raw_Ind=0</code> means RR covariates have already been re-coded to 0, 1, 2 or 3.

Details

The age is dichotomized as "age less than 50 years" and "age 50 years or more". The relative risks can be obtained from Gail Model, an unconditional logistic regression that included main effects NB_Cat, AM_Cat, AF_Cat, NR_Cat as well as interactions between AF_Cat and NR_Cat and between the age category and NR_Cat.

Value

RR_Star1	Relative risk for woman of interest at ages < 50.
RR_Star2	Relative risk for woman of interest at ages >= 50.
PatternNumber	The sequence number of risk patterns. There are 3 levels for NB_Cat, 3 for AM_Cat, 4 for AF_Cat, 3 for NR_Cat, $3*3*4*3 = 108$ patterns in total. Pattern Number=NB_Cat*3*3*4+AM_Cat*3*4+AF_Cat*3+NR_Cat*1+1.

See Also

[recode.check](#)

Examples

```
data(exampledata)
relative.risk(exampledata)
```

risk.summary

List the records with relative risks and absolute risks

Description

A function to list all the records with relative risks and absolute risks.

Usage

```
risk.summary(data, Raw_Ind=1)
```

Arguments

data	A data set containing all the required input data needed to perform risk projections, such as initial age, projection age, BrCa relative risk covariates and race. See <code>exampledata</code> for details.
Raw_Ind	The raw file indicator with default value 1. Raw_Ind=1 means RR covariates are in raw/original format. Raw_Ind=0 means RR covariates have already been re-coded to 0, 1, 2 or 3.

Value

A data frame that includes age, duration of the projection time interval, covariates and the projected risk. A CSV file is created to save the data frame under user's working directory for reading convenience.

See Also

[relative.risk](#), [absolute.risk](#)

Examples

```
data(exampladata)  
risk.summary(exampladata)
```

Index

`absolute.risk`, [3](#), [7](#), [14](#)

`BCRA` (`BCRA-package`), [2](#)
`BCRA-package`, [2](#)
`BrCa_1_AR`, [4](#)
`BrCa_beta`, [5](#)
`BrCa_lambda1`, [5](#)
`BrCa_lambda2`, [6](#)

`check.summary`, [7](#)

`error.table`, [8](#), [9](#), [13](#)
`error.table.all`, [8](#), [8](#), [13](#)
`exampledata`, [9](#)

`list.constants`, [10](#)

`recode.check`, [4](#), [7–9](#), [11](#), [14](#)
`relative.risk`, [4](#), [7](#), [13](#), [14](#)
`risk.summary`, [14](#)