

Avoiding immortal time bias in children with cerebral palsy

Freeman Miller

Department of Orthopaedics, Nemours Children's Health, DE, Wilmington, USA.

Email: freeman.miller@gmail.com

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EDITOR—We thank Day and Reynolds for their careful reading of our manuscript and the commentary provided.^{1,2} Based on our concern to provide survival from the index event (spinal fusion), we included Figure 2. As clinicians, we also feel that families are interested in the discussion of survival to a specific patient age. Based on this concern we chose to include the analysis based on patient age. We now appreciate the need to account for different individuals' potential for death, since there is no exposure to death prior to the index event or the individual would not have entered the cohort. The Cox proportional hazard model found only two variables significant as opposed to the individual variable analysis.

We thank the authors of the commentary for raising the issue of avoiding immortal time bias.

References

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2. Day SM, Reynolds RJ. How to avoid immortal time bias. *Dev Med Child Neurol* 2023 Apr 10.

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