

***Comparing the observed and unobserved components of the long arm of childhood – Evidence from Finnish register data on midlife mortality from siblings and their parents***

Online Appendix

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## 1 Appendix – Methods

2 Although we interpret the coefficients of our models in terms of hazard ratios from a  
3 proportional hazards model, it helps to look at the model applying the accelerated failure  
4 time (AFT) metric (Lambert et al. 2004), to understand how sibling similarity is estimated.  
5 The AFT formulation of the model is completely equivalent to the proportional hazard  
6 model, and is used only for illustrative purposes.

7 The formal regression equation for the frailty model on the AFT metric that we will use is  
8 defined as:

$$9 \log(y_{fst}) = a + b_w * t_{fs} + c * male_{fs} + b_m * t_{fs} * male_{fs} + \mathbf{X}_{fs}\boldsymbol{\gamma} + \log(Z_f) + \log(e_{fst}) \quad (1)$$

$$10 \log(Z_f | X_{fs}) \sim N(0, \sigma_Z); \text{VAR}(\log(Z_f)) = \Theta$$

$$\log(e_{fs}) \sim G\left(0, \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{6}}\right);$$

11 he index  $f$  stands for family,  $s$  for sibling,  $t$  for the age in years above 35 and  $c$  represents the  
12 mortality difference between men and women at the beginning of the analysis period (age 35).  
13  $Z_f$  is the frailty shared by siblings within a family. It is assumed that the random components  
14  $\log(Z_f)$  and  $\log(e_{fst})$  are uncorrelated and  $\log(Z_f)$  is assumed to follow a normal distribution with  
15 a mean of zero which is a formulation more closely related to the methodological tradition of  
16 multilevel modeling than of shared frailty models (Pankratz et al. 2005). In our sensitivity analyses we  
17 also specify Gamma and inverse Gaussian distributions for  $\log(Z_f)$  - which is more common in the  
18 literature on shared frailty – and discuss the (small) differences to the normality assumption The  
19 shape parameter  $b$ , representing the increase in mortality hazard per year, is allowed to differ  
20 between men ( $b_w + b_m$ ) and women ( $b_w$ ) reflecting that mortality risk increases faster for men than  
21 for women in midlife.  $\mathbf{X}$  is a vector of observed predictors and  $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$  the respective vector of  
22 coefficients.  $\log(y_{fst})$  is the log. survival time of each sibling nested in a family. This is the  
23 accelerated failure time metric which we use for illustrational purposes to demonstrate the  
24 estimation of the sibling similarity. The error term  $e_{fs}$  follows the standard exponential distribution  
25 with a mean and variance of 1. The logarithm of a standard exponentially distributed variable is the  
26 standard extreme value distribution or standard Gumbel ( $G$ ) distribution, which has a variance of  $\frac{\pi^2}{6}$   
27 (Allison 2010, p. 78). The family specific error-term is estimated as the variance of the intercept  $\alpha$ ,  
28 which is the log-baseline survival time. The metric of the family error component is therefore on the  
29 log-survival time scale and to put it into relation to this log. survival time scale it has to be compared  
30 to the variance of the standard Gumbel distribution. Following the method suggested by Goldstein et

1 al. (2002) we calculate the sibling similarity as an approximation of the intra-class correlation (ICC) in  
2 a linear multilevel model from the estimated variance on the family level and the assumed variance  
3 of the individual error component:

$$4 \hat{\rho}_f = \frac{\hat{\theta}}{\hat{\theta} + \sigma_e^2} = \frac{\hat{\theta}}{\hat{\theta} + \frac{\pi^2}{6}} (2)$$

5 A confidence interval can be derived for this statistic based on a standard error, which is  
6 derived using the delta method (Stata's nlcom command, see also (1992)).

7 The equivalence between our estimate of sibling similarity and the calculation of an ICC for a  
8 continuous outcome is, firstly, that the estimate is bounded by 0 and 1, and, secondly, that  
9 higher values indicate higher similarity between siblings relative to the differences between  
10 families. However, as the variance on the sibling level is not freely estimated, but fixed, we  
11 must be cautious in the interpretation of the numerical value of the sibling similarity. For low  
12 and average levels of variation between families, the value can be interpreted as an  
13 approximation of the variance in survival time (or the hazard of mortality) on the family  
14 level, compared to the total variation, which consists of family level plus individual (sibling)  
15 level. Note that an estimate of sibling similarity can also be derived from the proportional  
16 hazard model, and does not require the AFT metric, because the proportional hazard and  
17 AFT are equivalent models, differing only in the way coefficients are reported. The estimate  
18 of the shared frailty parameter is the same across the two metrics. Therefore, sibling  
19 similarity is not affected by our choice of metric.

20 In addition to the MHR and sibling similarity, a third statistic we use to establish the  
21 importance of familial influence is calculated by placing the estimate of familial variance in  
22 relation to the shape parameter of the Gompertz model. The shape parameter tells us how  
23 much the hazard increases per year of age. Consequently, we can divide the estimate of the  
24 square root of the familial variance by the shape parameter and make the following  
25 statement: Being in a family with one SD higher familial influence affects the mortality  
26 hazard in the same way as X years of aging. We call this equivalent years of aging (EYA):

27

$$\widehat{EYA} = \frac{\sqrt{\hat{\theta}}}{\hat{b}} (5)$$

28

1 As with sibling similarity and MHR, a confidence interval can be derived for this ratio based  
2 on a standard error, which is derived using the delta method. While sibling similarity (as the  
3 intra-class correlation of the variance partition component) and the MHR have been used in  
4 previous research, we propose the EYA as a new approach of estimating the total familial  
5 influence on mortality. While the MHR gives us an impression of the *relative* influence of the  
6 family on mortality, the EYA provide a metric that enables us to more easily judge the  
7 *absolute* influence of the family. The EYA can be thought of as the number of years  
8 individuals from an average risk family need to age in order to reach the same level of  
9 mortality hazard as individuals from a higher risk family. Note that we will interpret the  
10 hazard rate in the context of the EYA as equal to the hazard, because – for the very low  
11 incidences of mortality in the age range under observation – the hazard rate and the hazard  
12 are almost identical. The resulting error is small, and is justified by the ease of interpretation  
13 when using this method. This way of interpreting the hazard rate is similar to treating the  
14 odds ratio as a risk ratio, under the rare disease assumption (Greenland and Thomas 1982).

15

16 While a Gompertz distributed survival time is quite common in the literature, we do  
17 compare the cumulative hazard function based on our first model, which relies on the  
18 assumption of Gumbel-distributed individual error-terms with the cumulative hazard  
19 function from the non-parametric Nelson-Aalen (NA) estimator, which is not based on said  
20 assumption. Figure A1 shows the comparison of the two estimates of the cumulative hazard  
21 function for all-cause mortality. The functions are very similar, and the parametric function  
22 lies almost exclusively within the 95% CI of the NA estimator. In Fig. A15 we show the  
23 comparison for all groups of cause-specific mortality. For all groups of causes of death the  
24 functions are very similar, and the hazard function is slightly overestimated only at higher  
25 ages (65+) for men, and for CVD related deaths. A stronger deviation is present for alcohol-  
26 related deaths above the age of 60, for which the parametric model underestimates the  
27 mortality hazard compared to the NA estimator. In sum, the simplifying assumption  
28 regarding the distribution of the error-term seems justified, and allows us to obtain an  
29 estimate of sibling similarity that approximates the intra-class correlation.

30

1 We can also use the variance estimate from our models to calculate how large the hazard  
2 ration of a variable that is standardized to have a variance of 1 on the family level needs to  
3 be to completely explain differences between families.

4 The restriction of the model is that the coefficient of the shared frailty parameter is 1. This  
5 assumption allows estimating the variance. By reversing the assumptions and setting the  
6 variance to 1 we get a clear relationship between the estimated variance and the respective  
7 HR it would have, if the variance would be fixed instead of the coefficient. It is the fixed  
8 coefficient (1) divided by the factor that the shared frailty parameter needs to be multiplied  
9 by to get a variance of 1, which is the ratio of 1 to the standard deviation of the shared frailty  
10 parameter:

11

$$HR_{fam} = \exp\left(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{\theta}}}\right) = \exp(\sqrt{\theta})$$

12 This is numerically close to the MHR, differing only by a factor of  $\sqrt{2} * 0.6475 = .9539$ .

13

## 14 **Appendix – Additional results**

15 The baseline model contains gender, cohort, a gender-specific shape factor, and a random-  
16 intercept term (shared frailty) for each family (group of siblings). Table 1 contains the  
17 estimates of individual and family-level characteristics on all-cause mortality. The variance  
18 estimate for frailty is 0.36 on the hazard scale, which translates into an estimate of sibling  
19 similarity of 0.18. We can say that almost a fifth of the variation in survival time is estimated  
20 to be between families, while 82% is between siblings.

21 The median hazard ratio in the baseline model is 1.77. This means that, on average, between  
22 a pair of families randomly drawn from the population, the difference in mortality risk is 77%  
23 higher in the higher risk family than in the lower risk family.

24 Compared to the average increase in hazard per year, being in a family that is one standard  
25 deviation below the average in survival time is approximately the same as 8.81 equivalent  
26 years of ageing (EYA averaged across gender). The family impact on the hazard rate  
27 expressed as the EYA is illustrated in Fig. A2. It plots the predictions of the hazard rate of

1 mortality from the shared frailty model for an average family and a family that is one  
2 standard deviation above (high risk family) and below (low risk family) the average family,  
3 respectively. The equivalent years of ageing are visually represented as thick dash-dot lines.  
4 They show that high risk men reach a hazard of 1% at age 51.88, while men from an average  
5 family first reach this hazard at age 61.64. For women, a hazard of 0.5% is reached at age  
6 55.90 in the high risk families, and only at age 64.71 in the average risk group. Figure A3  
7 presents the distribution of the EYA averaged across men and women. It shows the size of  
8 the high and low risk groups (+1SD and -1SD, respectively) as a fraction of the total  
9 population (about 17% each). Furthermore, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 99<sup>th</sup> percentiles are indicated.  
10 Individuals from families with extremely low mortality risk are about 24.5 years behind in  
11 terms of their mortality risk, while the highest risk families (99<sup>th</sup> percentile) are almost 24.5  
12 years ahead.

13 In the demography model, we add variables for the age of parents at the individual's birth,  
14 differences between regions in Finland, the number of siblings in the family, and an indicator  
15 for individuals with Swedish as their mother tongue. The mortality risk of children whose  
16 mother tongue is Swedish is reduced by a factor of 0.61. There are also notable mortality  
17 differences between the regions in Finland, with Eastern Finland and the province of  
18 Uusimaa having slightly increased mortality compared to Western Finland (HR respectively:  
19 1.13 and 1.15). There is no strong association between parents' age at birth (maternal or  
20 paternal) and mortality. The differences in mortality between number of siblings in the  
21 family are also small and non-significant. Overall, sibling similarity is not influenced notably  
22 (0.17), and nor is the MHR (1.75) or the equivalent years of aging (8.66), meaning that  
23 familial influence on mortality risk cannot be traced back to similarity of siblings with regard  
24 to language, regional parity, or parental age at birth.

25 The parental SEP model includes the education and occupation of the parents. A lower  
26 parental education level ("less than primary school or no information" compared to "past  
27 primary school") is associated with higher mortality (HR 1.16). We can further see that  
28 parental occupational status is also associated with midlife mortality. Compared to  
29 professionals (higher white collar), the HR for blue-collar and farm workers is 1.16; other  
30 differences are smaller and not statistically significant. The number of people living in the  
31 household per heated room is an indicator of available resources in childhood, but is only  
32 slightly and non-significantly associated with mortality. Regarding sibling similarity and

1 equivalent years of aging on mortality, we can see that the inclusion of parental SEP  
2 variables has little effect. Sibling similarity is still 0.17, MHR is minimally reduced to 1.73, and  
3 the equivalent years of aging are 8.48. Substantively, these changes are negligible, and we  
4 thus conclude that parental SEP has some association with mortality, but does not  
5 contribute substantially to the explanation of total familial influence on midlife mortality.

6 The individual SEP model adds variables for the individuals' own SEP at age 35. This includes  
7 education, income, home ownership, occupational position, and employment status. All of  
8 the dimensions of individuals' SEP exert an influence on mortality separately. For example,  
9 individuals in the lowest income decile have a mortality risk 1.99 times higher than those in  
10 the highest decile. Compared to those with higher tertiary education, individuals with only  
11 basic or unknown education have a mortality risk which is 1.57 times higher. Individuals who  
12 rent have significantly increased mortality risk compared to those who own or part-own a  
13 house at the age of 35 (HR 1.31). Lastly, compared to upper white collar workers, blue collar  
14 workers' mortality risk is 1.23 times higher.

15 The socioeconomic stratification variables of individuals at age 35 explain a larger proportion  
16 of sibling similarity, in addition to the small explanatory contribution of the demography and  
17 the parental SEP models. The last model reduces the conditional sibling similarity to 0.14.  
18 The median hazard ratio is 1.64. The equivalent years of aging are reduced to 7.54. We can  
19 now see that this average difference between families is larger than any difference between  
20 occupational groups (max HR 1.23) and between home owners and non-owners. It is about  
21 the same size as the difference between the lowest educational group and the highest. It is  
22 somewhat smaller than the difference between the highest and lowest income deciles, and  
23 also somewhat smaller than the difference between unemployed and employed individuals.  
24 For all-cause mortality we can conclude that, first, the average difference in mortality risk  
25 between families is almost as large as the strongest differences we find between social  
26 groups and, second, only individuals' own SEP contributes a relevant portion to the  
27 explanation of familial influences on all-cause mortality. In total, only about 20 percent of  
28 the familial influence could be explained jointly by demographic, parental, and individuals'  
29 own socioeconomic factors. As we proposed in  $H_1$ , the *unobserved arm* is of greater  
30 magnitude than the *observed long arm of childhood*.

31

1 *Cause-specific familial influence*

2 In this section, we examine differences in the magnitude of sibling similarity, and the  
3 proportion of similarity explained by the demography, parental, and individual SEP models  
4 between causes of death. Table 3 in the appendix lists the relative frequency of causes of  
5 death in the sample. Figure A4 shows sibling similarity by cause of death, and Fig. A5 shows  
6 the EYA by cause of death (in addition to the MHR results in Fig. 1 in the main text).

7 The highest similarity is found for alcohol-related deaths (0.36), but similarity in CVD (0.33)  
8 and accidental and violent (0.25) deaths are also markedly higher than for all-cause  
9 mortality. Lung cancer (0.29) also shows higher sibling similarity than all-cause mortality.  
10 Other types of cancer show a similar total familial influence to all-cause mortality (0.19). The  
11 MHR follows the same pattern as sibling similarity. While the average difference in mortality  
12 risk between two families is about 77% for all-cause and cancer mortality, it is about 100% in  
13 accidents and violence, 120% in lung cancer, 137% in CVD, and about 150% in alcohol-  
14 related mortality. It is interesting that the EYA comparison does not follow the same picture.  
15 Lung cancer estimates are about the same size as for all-cause mortality (about 9 years). This  
16 means that if we take into account the increase in mortality risk with increasing age, the  
17 relative influence of family is the same for all-cause as for lung cancer-specific mortality.  
18 Therefore, the way in which we measure familial influence for the comparison of familial  
19 influence between causes of death does make a difference. Further, a reliable estimate for  
20 accidents and violence could not be calculated, because the shape parameter (log. increase  
21 in hazard with age) approached zero, and the values became unreasonably high, which is a  
22 common drawback of using a ratio.

23 Similar to the result for all-cause mortality above, parental and individuals' own SEP can only  
24 explain a small portion of the familial influence on mortality. The largest portion is explained  
25 by the influence of individuals' SEP on mortality due to lung cancer. As smoking shows a  
26 strong social gradient, individual SEP can explain an estimated 27% of the differences in lung  
27 cancer mortality between families. The cumulative explanatory power for other causes of  
28 death lies between 10% (alcohol related) to 15.41% (accidents and violence), which is  
29 smaller than the explicable familial influence on all-cause mortality. Despite the fact that we  
30 can find clear and strong social gradients in all cause-of-death groups, we can only attribute  
31 mortality differences between families to a maximum of one quarter of our measures of



1 social stratification. All three measures show that the differences in the level of familial  
2 influence between causes of death are much higher than the share of familial influence that  
3 can be explained by SEP (the differences between models within each cause of death),  
4 indicating that there is much more variation in the strength of the long arm of childhood  
5 across causes of death than there is between the observed and unobserved components of  
6 the arm.

7

8

9 Based on the MHR and sibling similarity – both measures of relative influence – we find  
10 considerable evidence to suggest that familial influence is strongest in those groups of  
11 causes that are more strongly related to behavioral factors. The pattern is less clear when  
12 we use equivalent years of aging as a measure of absolute influence. This discrepancy could  
13 be explained by the fact that relative measures do not take into account the increase in  
14 mortality hazard with age. Familial influence on CVD and lung cancer was found to be larger,  
15 but so was the increase of mortality hazard with age. In future studies, more in-depth  
16 analyses regarding familial influence on more distinct groups of causes of death would be  
17 interesting. The familial influence on lung cancer should be given special consideration,  
18 because the overall familial influence on this cause of death is larger than for all-cause  
19 mortality, and the relative importance of the visible arm (meaning the part that can be  
20 attributed to the social stratification of parents and their children) is considerably larger  
21 compared to other groups, although it remains smaller than its unobserved counterpart. This  
22 indicates that determinants of lung cancer mortality, primarily smoking (Fenelon and  
23 Preston 2012), are especially subject to observable social influences, a result that has also  
24 been found in other studies (e.g. Geyer 2008; Kulik et al. 2013; Mackenbach et al. 2004).

25

## 26 **Appendix Sensitivity Analysis**

27 In our analysis, the estimation of the variance term for the shared frailty parameters is the  
28 key element. In the results reported above we assumed a Gaussian distribution of the frailty  
29 parameters; however, the results might be sensitive to this assumption. Therefore, we re-  
30 ran the analyses for all-cause mortality using gamma and inverse Gaussian distribution, to

1 see whether the results would change substantially, due to the specification of the  
2 distribution of the frailty parameter. The gamma model for the frailty distribution has been  
3 used by numerous researchers (e.g. Manton and Stallard 1981; Vaupel and Yashin 1985). The  
4 other common distribution, inverse Gaussian, was introduced as a frailty model by Hougaard  
5 (1984). Figure A7 and A8 in the appendix show the measures of familial influence for all-  
6 cause mortality according to the distributional assumption for shared frailty parameters. We  
7 can see that a Gaussian distribution results in slightly lower overall estimates of familial  
8 influence, but the change in familial influence for the different models is proportional across  
9 specifications. We therefore take a slightly conservative estimate regarding the size of  
10 influence of shared family characteristics; nevertheless, our conclusions regarding the  
11 explanation of familial influence are not affected by the choice of distribution for the shared  
12 frailty parameters.

13 A second aspect that might influence the conclusions from our analyses is gender specificity  
14 in familial influence on midlife mortality. In our analysis, we combined brothers and sisters –  
15 however, both gender-specific parenting as well as gender differences in mortality (Hamil-  
16 Luker and O’Rand 2007) could lead to different results when estimating familial influence  
17 separately for brothers and sisters. To test the gender specificity of our results, we repeated  
18 our analyses for men and women separately, analyzing only those families with at least one  
19 brother and sister pairing, and dropping all families where the children are of only one  
20 gender. We also repeated the analyses for cause-specific mortality if the brother and sister  
21 subsample contained more than 500 deaths, to ensure sufficient inter-family and intra-  
22 family variation. The results of our analysis of brother and sister similarity are reported in  
23 Fig. A9-14. We can see that the differences in estimates of familial influence to the pooled  
24 sample are minor, and the explanatory contribution of the four models are very similar in  
25 size. We therefore conclude that familial influence on mortality hazard is not gender specific  
26 for our sample.

27

## Appendix - Tables

Table A1 – Summary statistics

	Mean	SD
<b>Demography</b>		
<i>Birth cohort</i>	1943.73	4.19
<i>Age (years) at last observation</i>	61.62	5.69
<i>Female</i>	0.49	
<i>Native language:</i>		
Finnish	0.93	
Swedish	0.07	
<i>Mother's age at birth:</i>		
14-24	0.21	
25-35	0.58	
35+	0.19	
no valid info	0.01	
<i>Father's age at birth:</i>		
14-24	0.08	
25-35	0.52	
35+	0.33	
no valid info	0.06	
<i>Region</i>		
Western Finland	0.44	
Eastern Finland	0.38	
Lapland	0.06	
Uusimaa	0.12	
<i>Number of siblings</i>		
2	0.34	
3	0.27	
4	0.18	
5+	0.21	
<b>Parental SEP</b>		
<i>Parental education:</i>		
Did not go to school, unknown	0.17	
Primary school	0.73	
Past primary	0.10	
<i>Father's occupational status</i>		
Professional/administrative	0.14	
Workers & agriculture workers	0.41	
Farmers	0.27	
Farmers (10+ ha)	0.08	
Employer/self-employed	0.08	
Other, unknown	0.01	
<i>Number of persons per heated room</i>		
up to 1 person	0.05	
1-2 persons	0.37	
2-3 persons	0.28	
3 and more persons	0.29	
Unknown	0.01	
<b>Own SEP (at age 35)</b>		
<i>Income</i>		
1st decile	0.10	
2nd decile	0.08	
3rd decile	0.08	
4th decile	0.08	
5th decile	0.08	
6th decile	0.08	
7th decile	0.08	
8th decile	0.08	

9th decile	0.08
10th decile	0.09
Unknown	0.16
<i>Education</i>	
Basic or unknown	0.53
Upper secondary (lower track)	0.24
Upper secondary (higher track)	0.11
Lower-degree tertiary	0.07
Highest-degree level tertiary	0.05
<i>Home ownership</i>	
No owner	0.30
Owns house/share	0.56
Unknown	0.14
<i>Occupation</i>	
Self-employed	0.11
Upper white-collar	0.12
Lower white-collar	0.26
Blue-collar	0.31
Other/unknown	0.20
<i>Employment status</i>	
Employed	0.71
Unemployed	0.02
Homemakers	0.06
Others/Unknown	0.21

---

Table A2 – Relative frequency of causes of death in the sample of siblings

Cause of death	Freq.	Percent
Cancer (other than lung cancer)	2462	22.49
Cardiovascular	3188	29.12
Alcohol	1085	9.91
Accidents and Violence	1952	17.83
Lung Cancer	613	5.60
Other	1321	12.07
Unknown	327	2.99
<b>Total</b>	<b>10948</b>	<b>100</b>

Table A3 – Summary statistics comparing sibling sample with only children

	Sibling Sample	Only-Children
<b>Demography</b>		
<i>Birth cohort</i>	1943.73	1943.86
<i>Age (years) at last observation</i>	61.63	61.40
<i>Female</i>	0.49	0.49
<i>Native language:</i>		
Finnish	0.93	0.90
Swedish	0.07	0.10
<i>Mother's age at birth:</i>		
14-24	0.21	0.29
25-35	0.58	0.44
35+	0.19	0.25
no valid info	0.01	0.03
<i>Father's age at birth:</i>		
14-24	0.08	0.14
25-35	0.52	0.39
35+	0.33	0.29
no valid info	0.06	0.18
<i>Region</i>		

Western Finland	0.44	0.47
Eastern Finland	0.38	0.31
Lapland	0.06	0.03
Uusimaa	0.12	0.19
<i>Number of siblings</i>		
2	0.34	0.00
3	0.27	0.00
4	0.18	0.00
5+	0.21	0.00
<b>Parental SEP</b>		
<i>Parental education:</i>		
Did not go to school, unknown	0.17	0.16
Primary school	0.73	0.73
Past primary	0.10	0.11
<i>Father's occupational status</i>		
Professional/administrative	0.14	0.17
Workers & agriculture workers	0.41	0.49
Farmers	0.27	0.19
Farmers (10+ ha)	0.08	0.05
Employer/self-employed	0.08	0.08
Other, unknown	0.01	0.02
<i>Number of persons per heated room</i>		

up to 1 person	0.05	0.19
1-2 persons	0.37	0.49
2-3 persons	0.28	0.22
3 and more persons	0.29	0.08
Unknown	0.01	0.02

**Own SEP (at age 35)**

*Siblings' Income*

1st decile	0.10	0.10
2nd decile	0.08	0.08
3rd decile	0.08	0.07
4th decile	0.08	0.07
5th decile	0.08	0.07
6th decile	0.08	0.08
7th decile	0.08	0.08
8th decile	0.08	0.09
9th decile	0.08	0.09
10th decile	0.09	0.11
Unknown	0.16	0.16

*Siblings' education*

Basic	0.53	0.49
Upper secondary (lower track)	0.24	0.23
Upper secondary (higher track)	0.11	0.14



Lower-degree tertiary	0.04	0.05
Highest-degree tertiary	0.07	0.10
<i>Siblings' home ownership</i>		
No owner	0.30	0.28
Owens house/share	0.56	0.59
Unknown	0.14	0.14
<i>Siblings' occupation</i>		
Self-employed	0.11	0.11
Upper white-collar	0.12	0.15
Lower white-collar	0.26	0.27
Blue-collar	0.31	0.27
Other/unknown	0.20	0.19
<i>Siblings' employment status</i>		
Employed	0.71	0.72
Unemployed	0.02	0.01
Homemakers	0.06	0.06
Others/Unknown		

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## Appendix - Figures

Fig. A1 – Comparison of parametric and non-parametric estimate of the cumulative hazard function for all-cause mortality

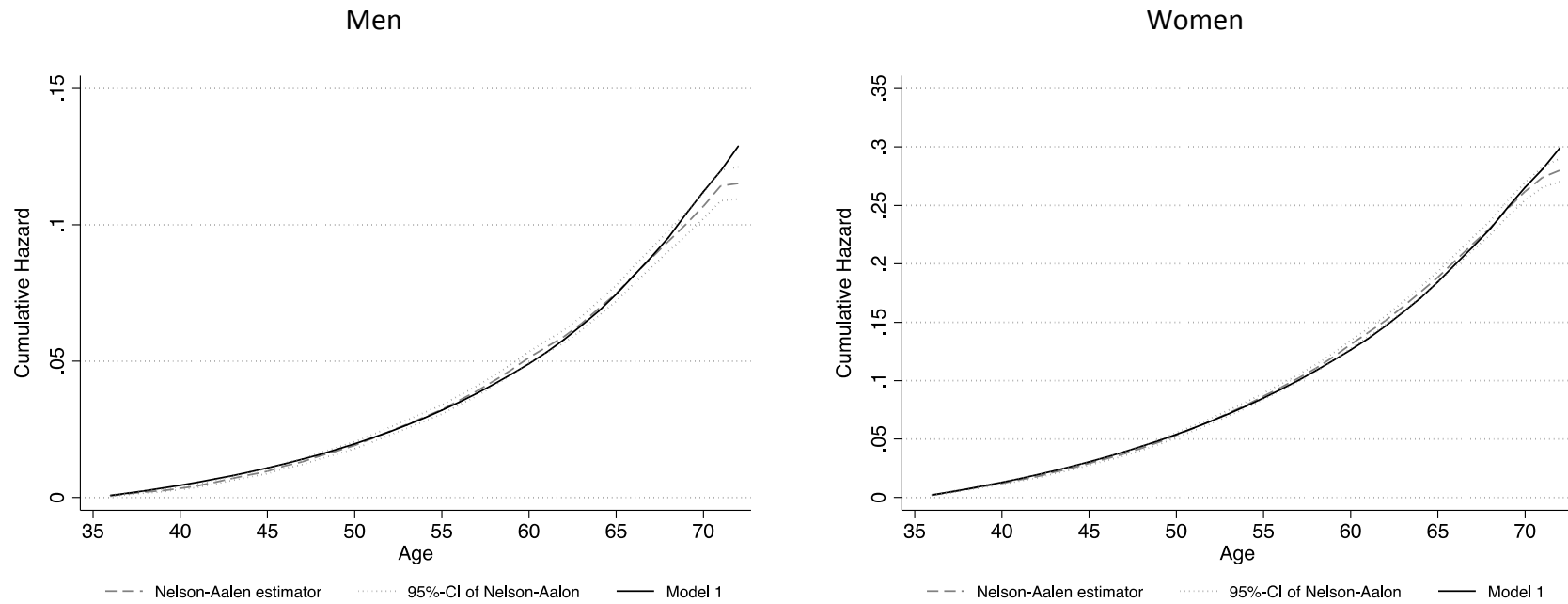


Fig. A2 – Equivalent years of ageing for men and women in the baseline model

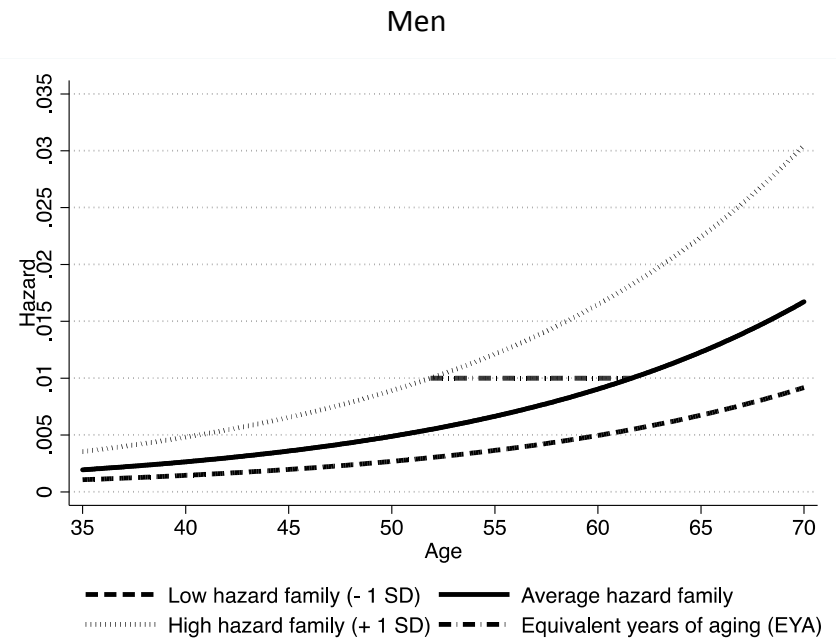
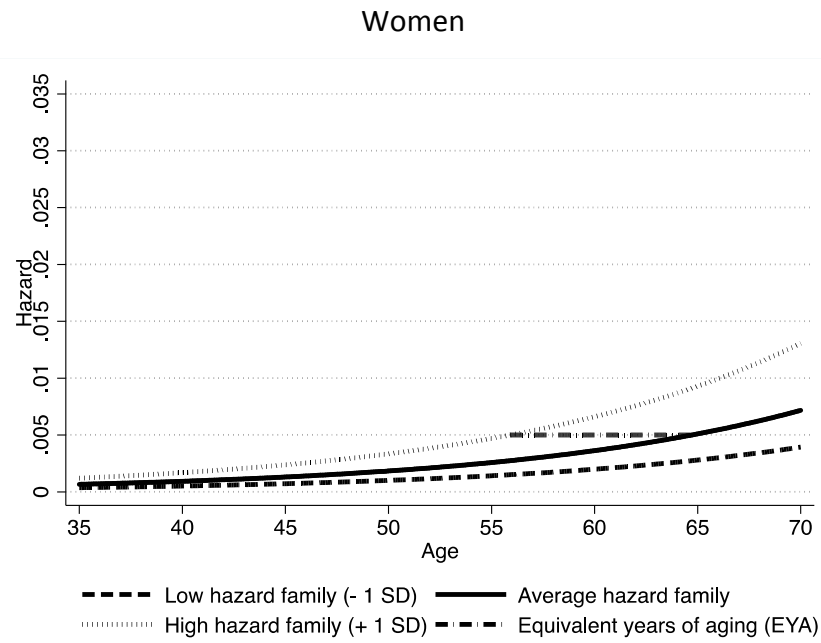


Fig. A3 – Distribution of EYA in the population based on model prediction for all-cause mortality

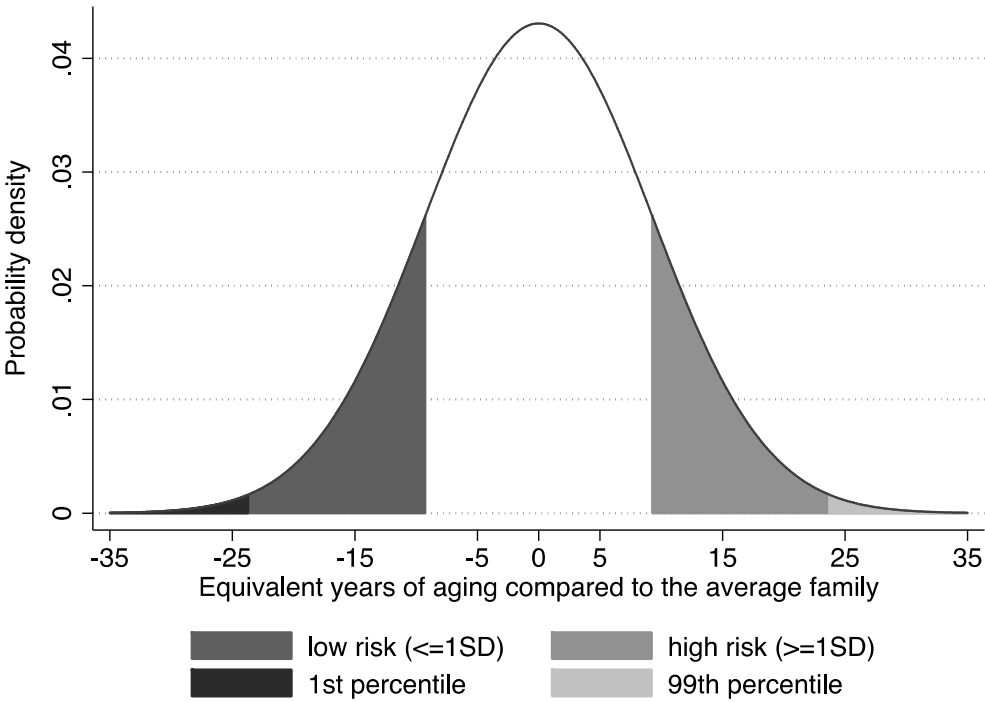


Fig. A4 – Differences in sibling similarity between models and by cause of death

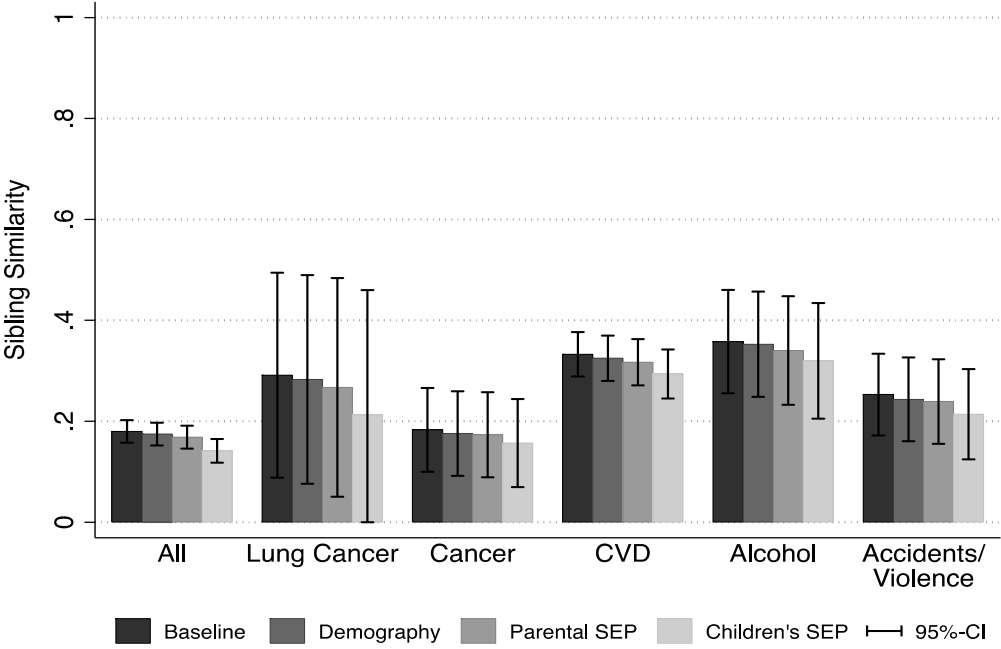
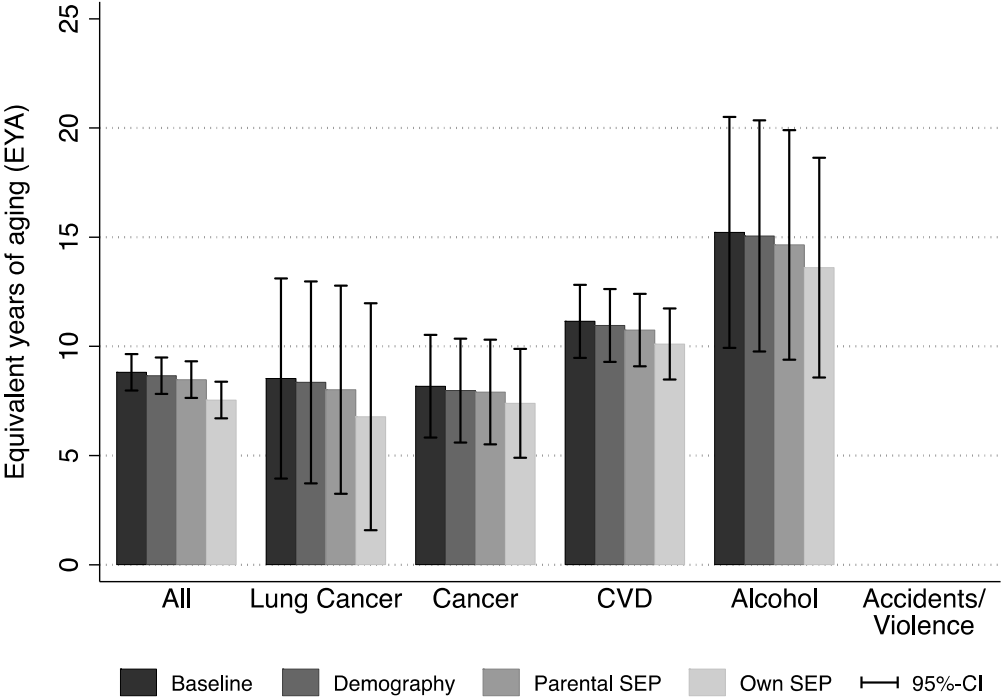


Fig. A5 – Differences in equivalent years of aging between models and by cause of death



*Note:* Estimates for accidents and violence are missing because they were unreliably high – the estimate for the shape parameter (the nominator) approached zero.

Fig. A6 – Sibling similarity for different models and distributional assumptions

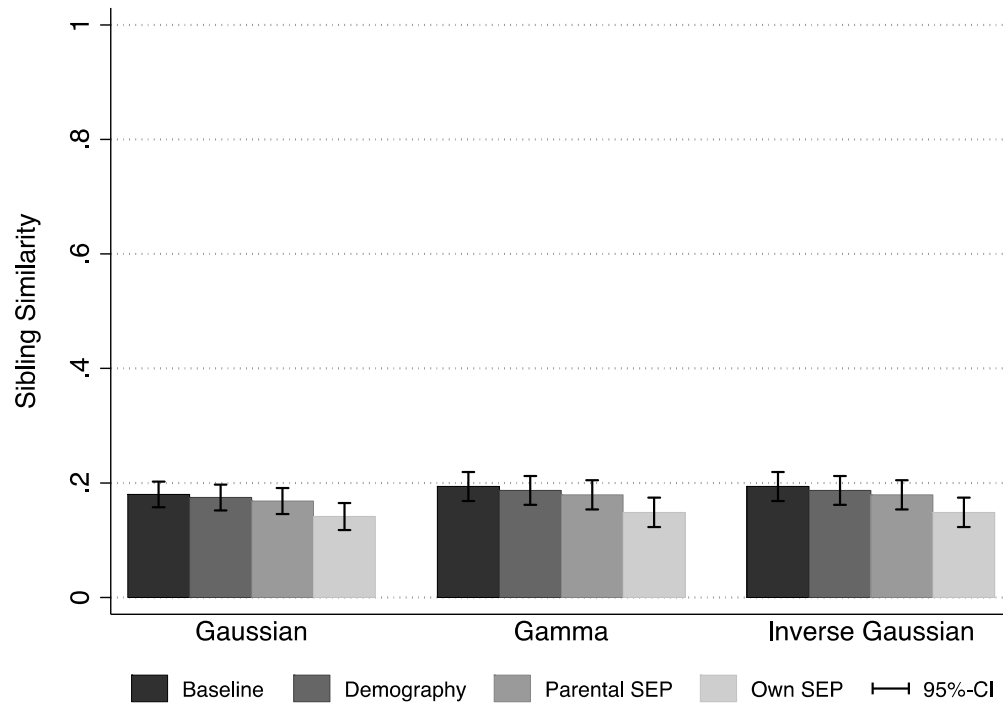


Fig. A7 – Equivalent years of aging for different models and distributional assumptions

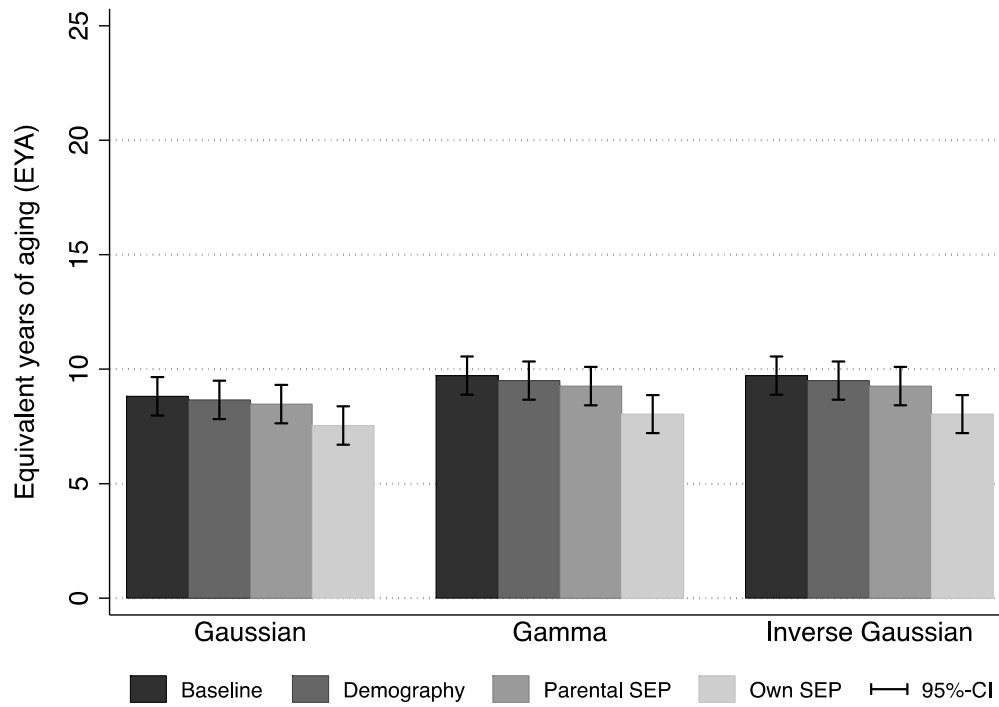
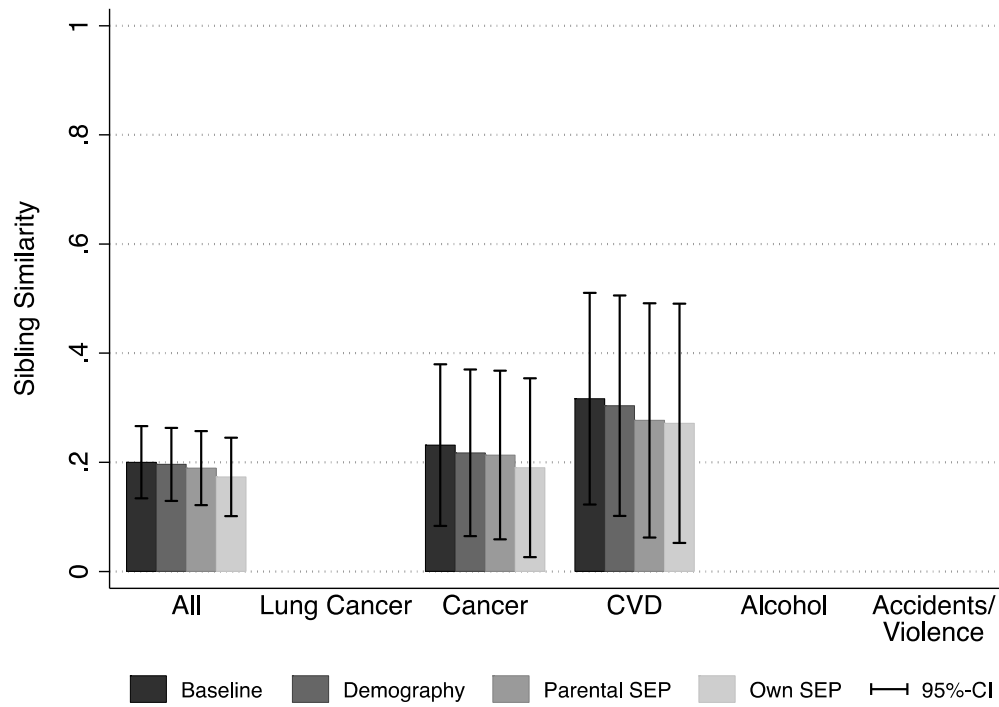


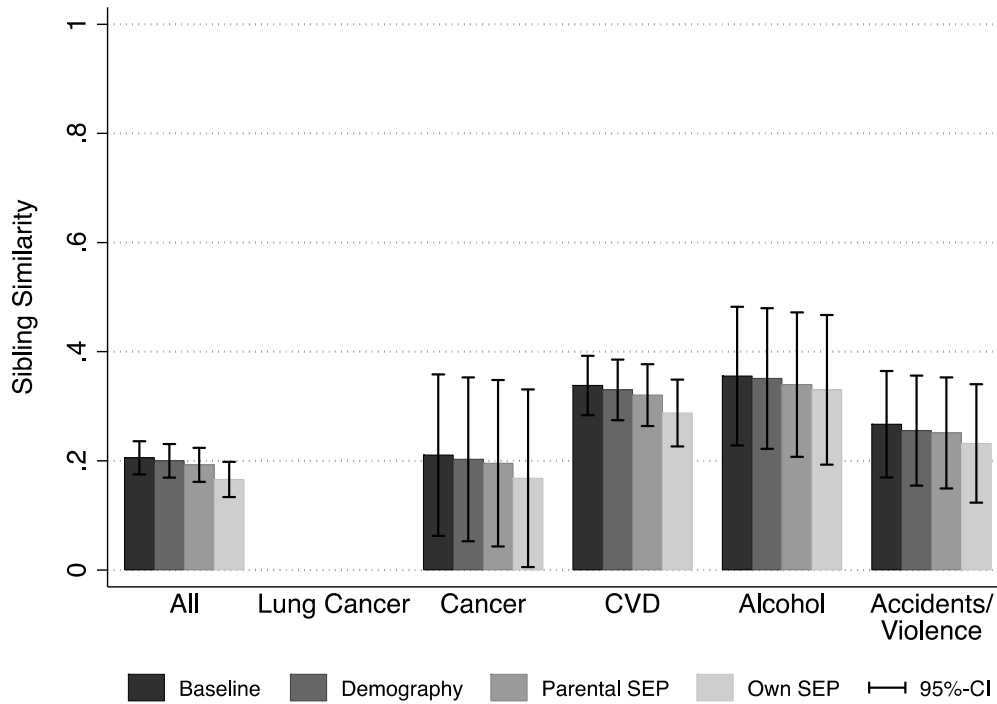


Fig. A8 – Sister similarity in all-cause and cause specific mortality



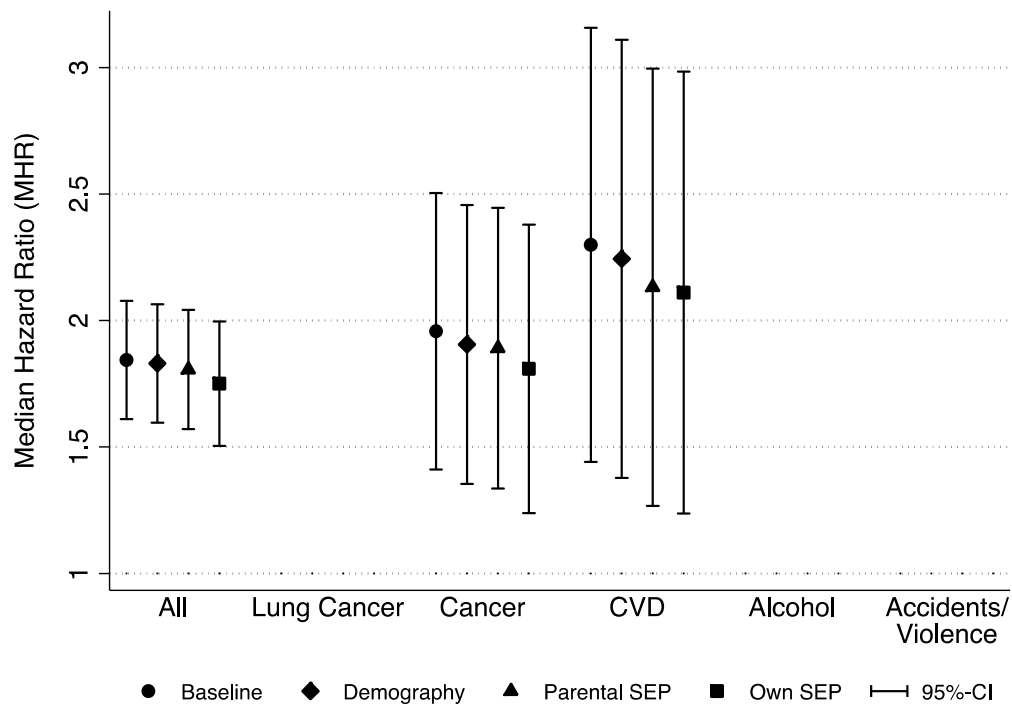
Note: There were not enough deaths related to lung cancer (<500) to get reliable estimates of the inter-family variation.

Fig. A9 – Brother similarity in all-cause and cause specific mortality



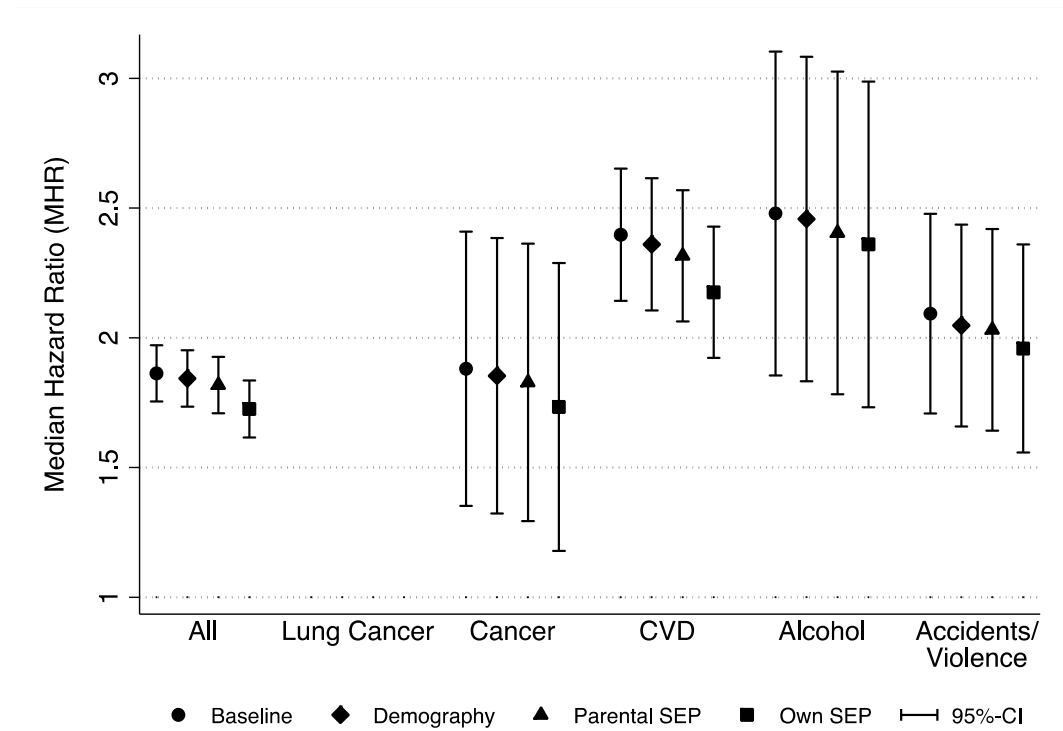
Note: There were not enough deaths related to lung cancer, alcohol, and accidents and violence (<500) to get reliable estimates of the between family variation.

Fig. A10 – Median hazard ratio in all-cause and cause specific mortality – Sisters



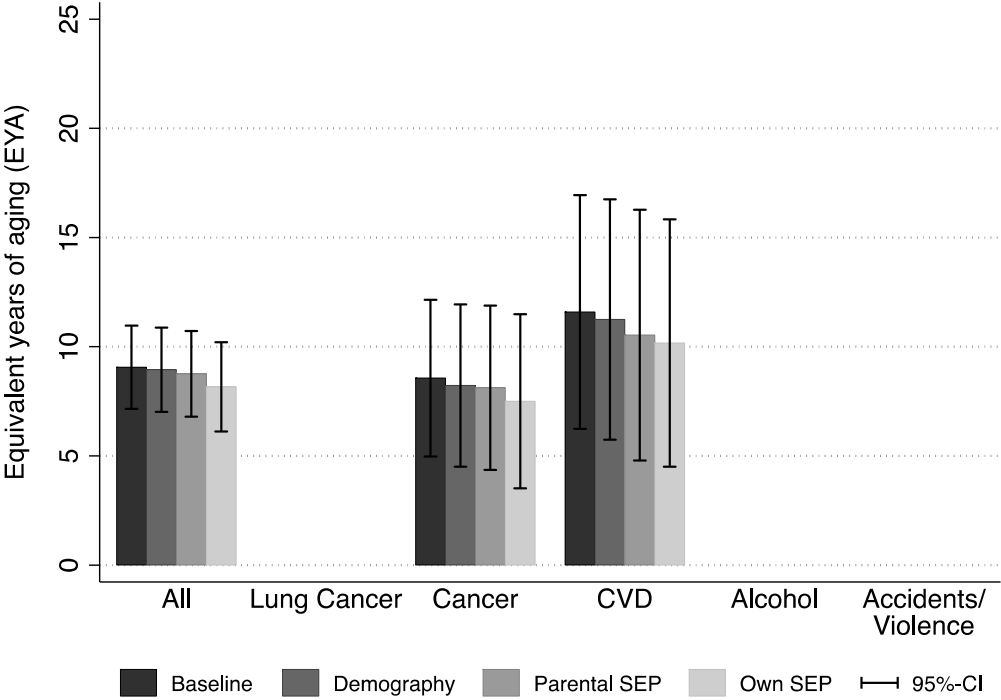
Note: There were not enough deaths related to lung cancer, alcohol, and accidents and violence (<500) to get reliable estimates of the inter-family variation.

Fig. A11 – Median hazard ratio in all-cause and cause specific mortality – Brothers



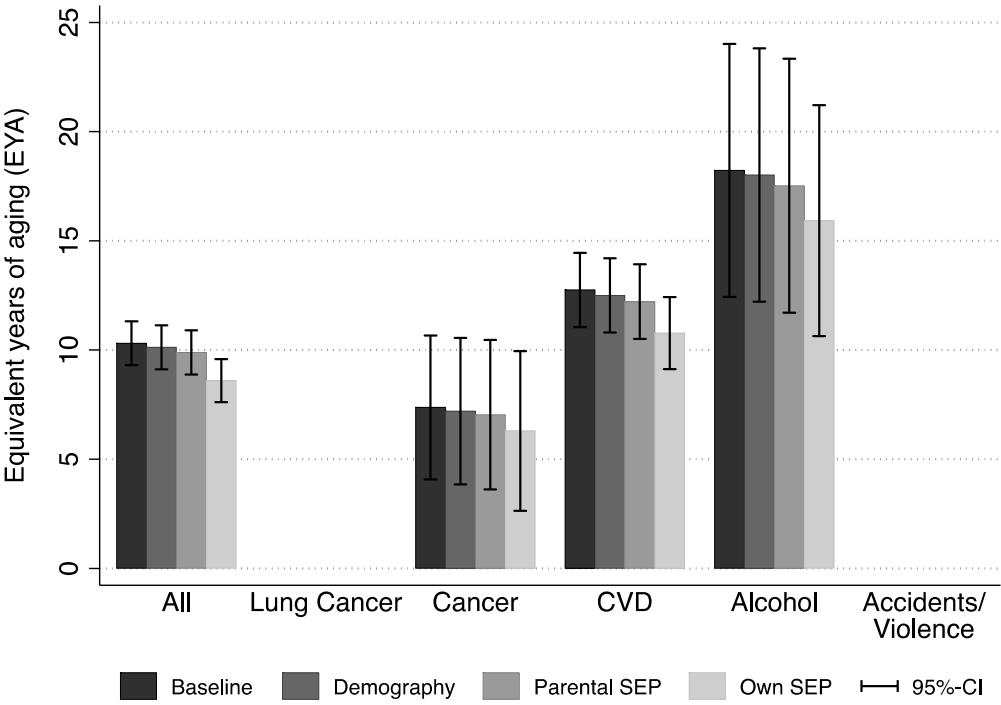
Note: There were not enough deaths related to lung cancer (<500) to get reliable estimates of the inter-family variation.

Fig. A12 – Equivalent years of aging in all-cause and cause specific mortality – Sisters



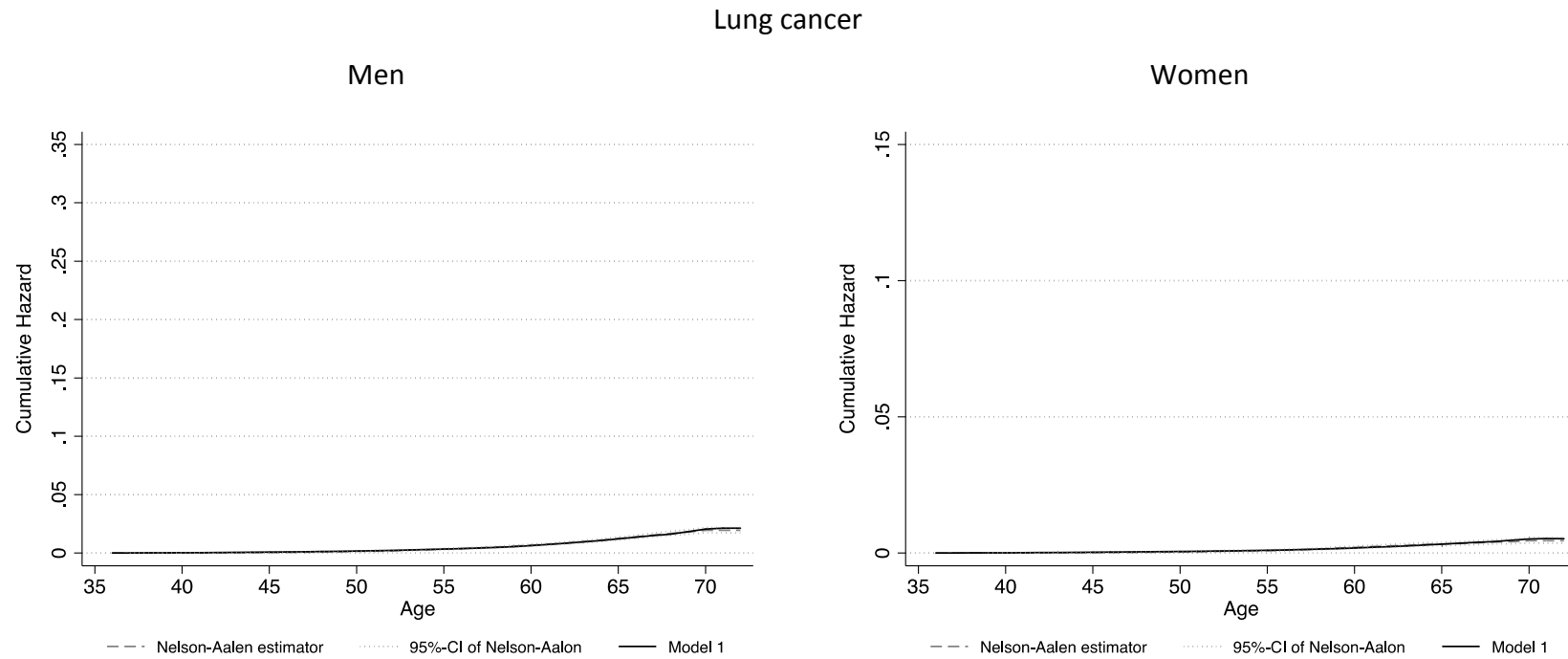
Note: There were not enough deaths related to lung cancer, alcohol, and accidents and violence (<500) to get reliable estimates of the inter-family variation.

Fig. A13 – Equivalent years of aging in all-cause and cause specific mortality – Brothers



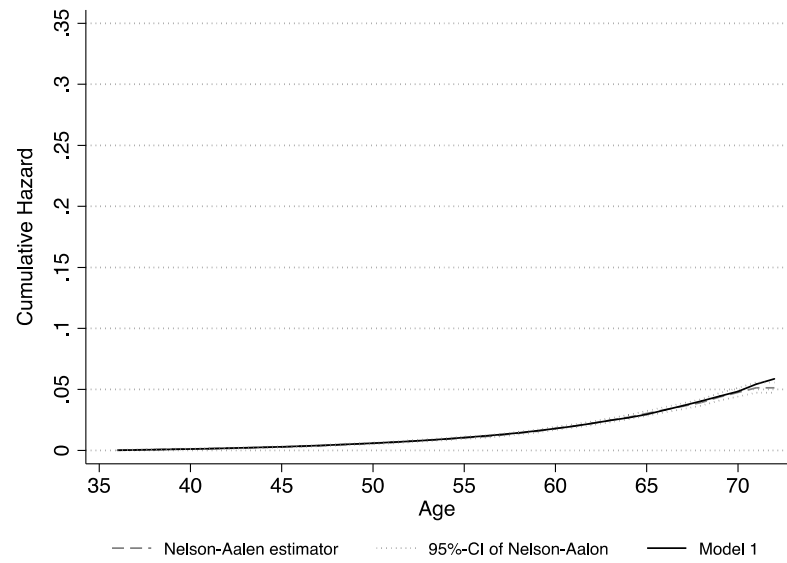
Note: There were not enough deaths related to lung cancer and accidents and violence (<500) to get reliable estimates of the between family variation.

Fig. A14 - Comparison of parametric and non-parametric estimate of the cumulative hazard function by causes of death

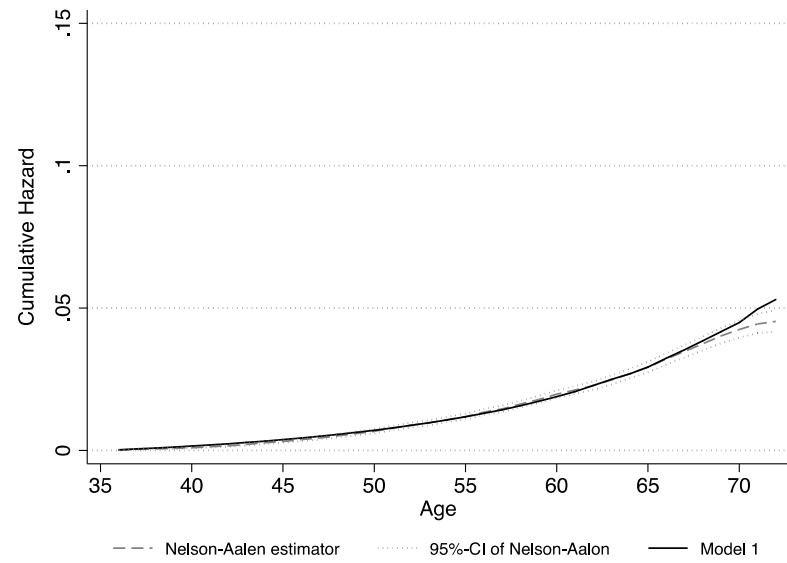


# Cancer

## Men



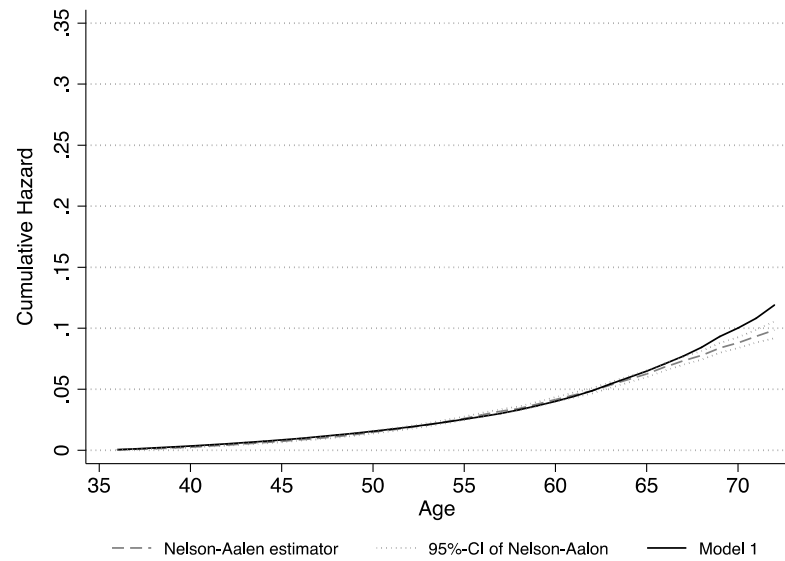
## Women



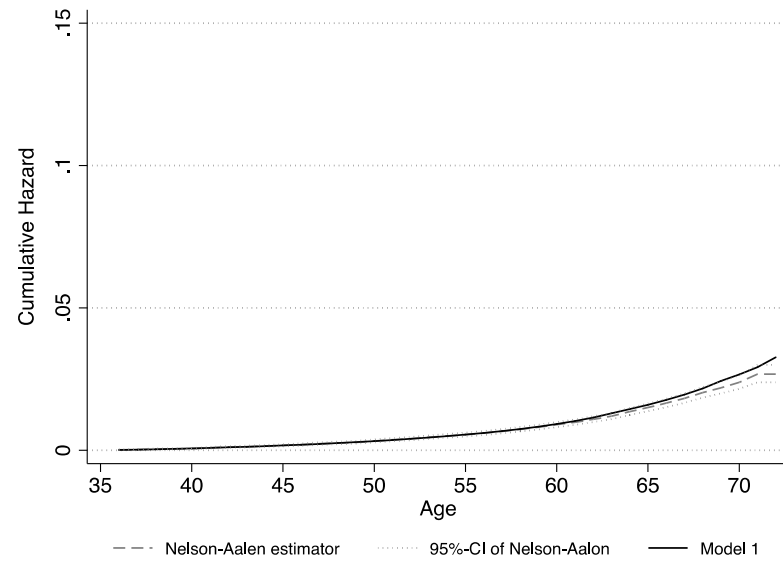


CVD

Men

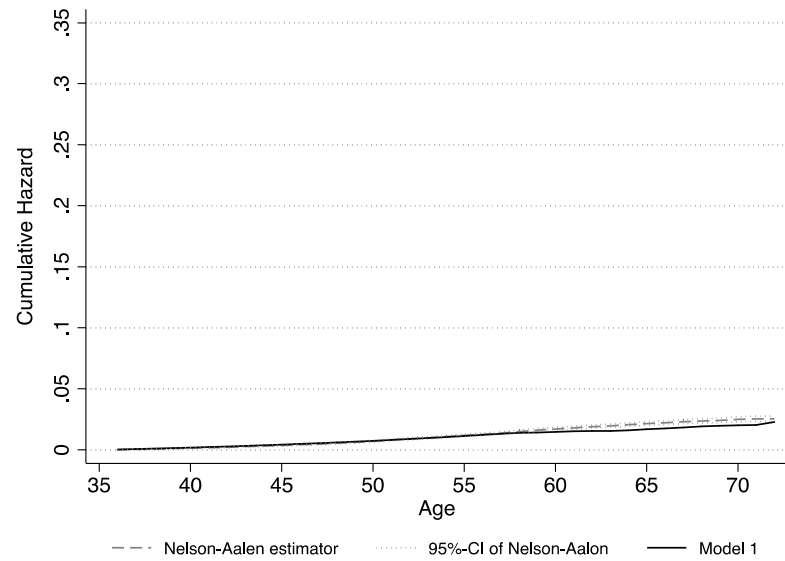


Women

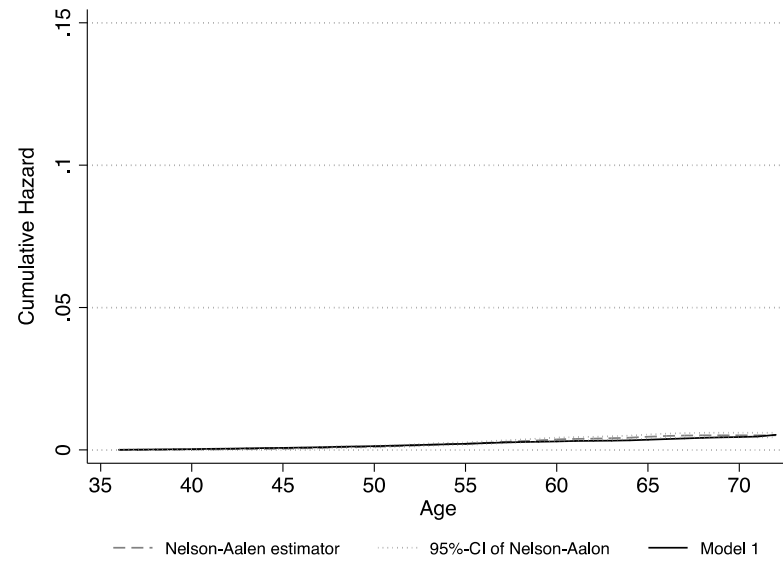


# Alcohol

## Men

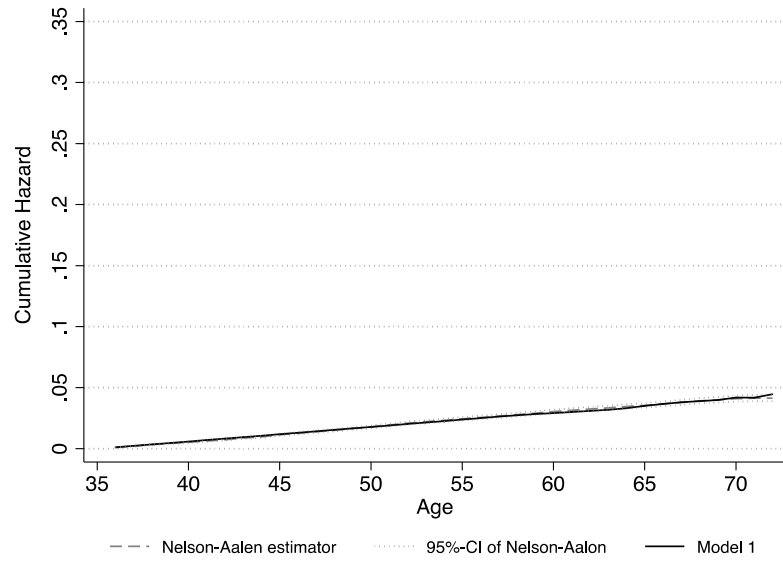


## Women



### Accidents and violence

Men



Women

