**Variable selection (Cox regression model)**

**Independent variables analyzed**

Age, sex, IPF (idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis), rheumatologic disorders (RD), cancer, tobacco exposure, symptoms at diagnosis, T/S ratio

Interactions: age T/S ratio, IPF T/S ratio, RD T/S ratio, cancer T/S ratio

**Initial selection of independent variables**

**Univariate hazard regression (*p* < 0.3)**

\*Age, sex ,\*IPF, \*RD, \*cancer, tobacco exposure, symptoms at diagnosis, T/S ratio,

\* age T/S ratio, \*IPF T/S ratio, \*RD T/S ratio, cancer T/S ratio

**Refinement of initial selection**

**1. Backward Stepwise selection. *p*-value for exclusion (*p* ≥ 0.1)**

Selected variables: IPF, RD, age T/S ratio, RD T/S ratio,

The initial model contemplates univariate selected variables

*p* = 0.9457 ≥ 0.1000, removing IPF T/S ratio

*p* = 0.9286 ≥ 0.1000, removing Cancer

*p* = 0.8516 ≥ 0.1000, removing Age

*p* = 0.1562 ≥ 0.1000, removing T/S ratio

**2. Forward Stepwise selection. *p*-value for inclusion (*p* < 0.05)**

Selected variables: IPF, RD

The initial model is empty

*p* = 0.0352 < 0.0500, adding IPF

*p* = 0.0367 < 0.0500, adding Rheumatologic disorder (RD)

**3. Selection of the best equation by AIC/BIC and Harrell´s C criteria**

Selected variables according to best AIC/BIC: age, IPF, RD, T/S ratio, RD T/S ratio

Harrell´s C: 0.814; AIC: 81.4; BIC: 91.7 (better AIC)

Selected variables according to best Harrell´s C: age, IPF, cancer, RD, T/S ratio, age T/S ratio

Harrell´s C: 0.825; AIC: 88.3; BIC: 100.6 (better Harrell´s C)

**Variables selected in common**: age, IPF, RD, RD T/S ratio

**Diagnosis of hazard Cox model assumptions**.

- Colinearity. Variance inflation factor (VIF) must be < 10. Mean VIF: 4.87

- Presence of hazard proportionality (absence of relation between Schoenfeld residuals and survival time and absence of time varying covariates (tvc)). Non-significancy means that null hypothesis for proportional hazards cannot be rejected.

* Test of proportional hazards assumption based on Schoenfield residuals.

Global test. *p* = 0.912

rho Age. *p* = 0.678

rho IPF. *p* = 0.830

rho RD. *p* = 0.325

rho T/S ratio. *p* = 0.530

rho T/S ratio RD. *p* = 0.277

* Test of interaction terms between predictors and survival time.

Global test (*chunk test*). *p* = 0.632

tvc Age. *p* = 0.711

tvc IPF. *p* = 1.00

tvc RD. *p* = 0.136

tvc T/S ratio. *p* = 0.466

tvc T/S ratio RD. *p* = 0.118

* Test of interaction terms between predictors and logarithmic transformation of time.

Global test (*chunk test*). *p* = 0.536

tvc Age. *p* = 0.545

tvc IPF. *p* = 0.534

tvc RD. *p* = 0.121

tvc T/S ratio. *p* = 0.556

tvc T/S ratio RD. *p* = 0.086

- Presence of log-linear relationship between instant rate of incidence and predictors. Non-significancy supports the hypothesis of linearity.

Predictor linear square analysis *p* = 0.241

- Influent observations (likelihood displacement).

2 subject detected as influents. No errors in transcription or measures.

After deleting these patients from dataset, there were no changes in significacy of predictors, except for age which turned out to be significant (HR: 1.20; 95% CI: 1.04 to 1.38; *p* = 0.013).