

INTRODUCTION

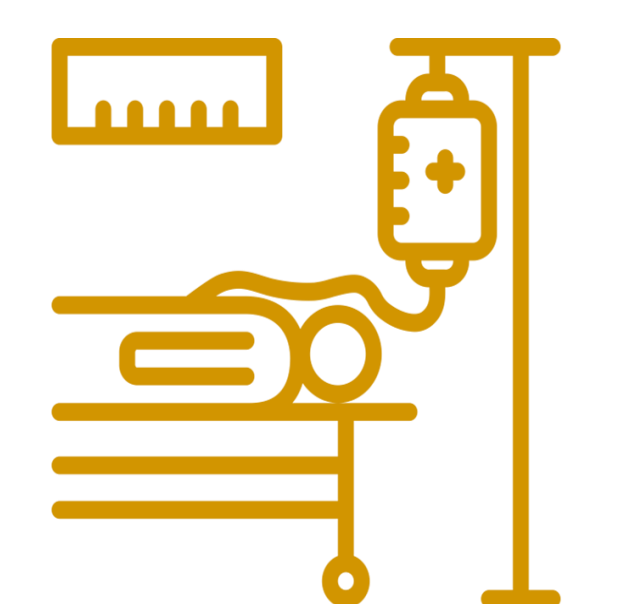
Mental health (MH) conditions are common in patients with colorectal cancer (CRC) due to the unique challenges these patients encounter.

AIM: To investigate predictors of new-onset MH conditions after a diagnosis of CRC and determine the association of new MH conditions on survival.

MATERIALS & METHODS



Patients diagnosed with colorectal cancer in 2017 to 2020 were identified in the institutional tumor registry.



Data, including demographics and overall survival was obtained from the registry, with missing data and mental health diagnoses obtained from the electronic medical record.



The primary outcome was a dichotomous measure of any new MH condition after CRC diagnosis, and the secondary outcome was patient survival.



RESULTS

- New MH condition was more likely among non-Hispanic white patients compared to non-Hispanic black and was less likely among those who were male or had a pre-cancer MH condition.
- Onset of a new MH condition was associated with a threefold decrease in survival.
- Having a pre-cancer MH condition decreased survival nearly twofold.

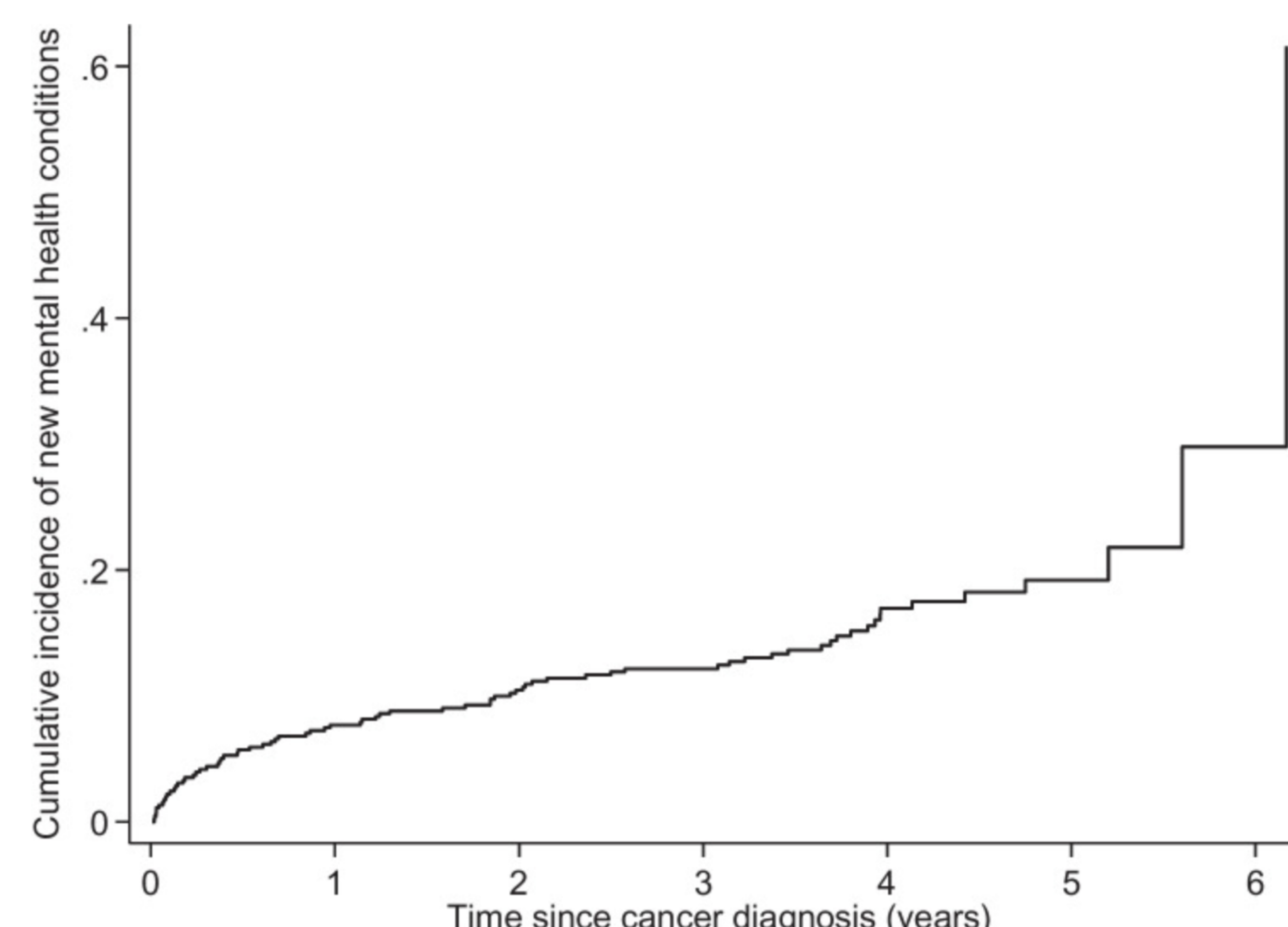


Figure 1. Cumulative incidence function of new MH diagnosis after cancer diagnosis

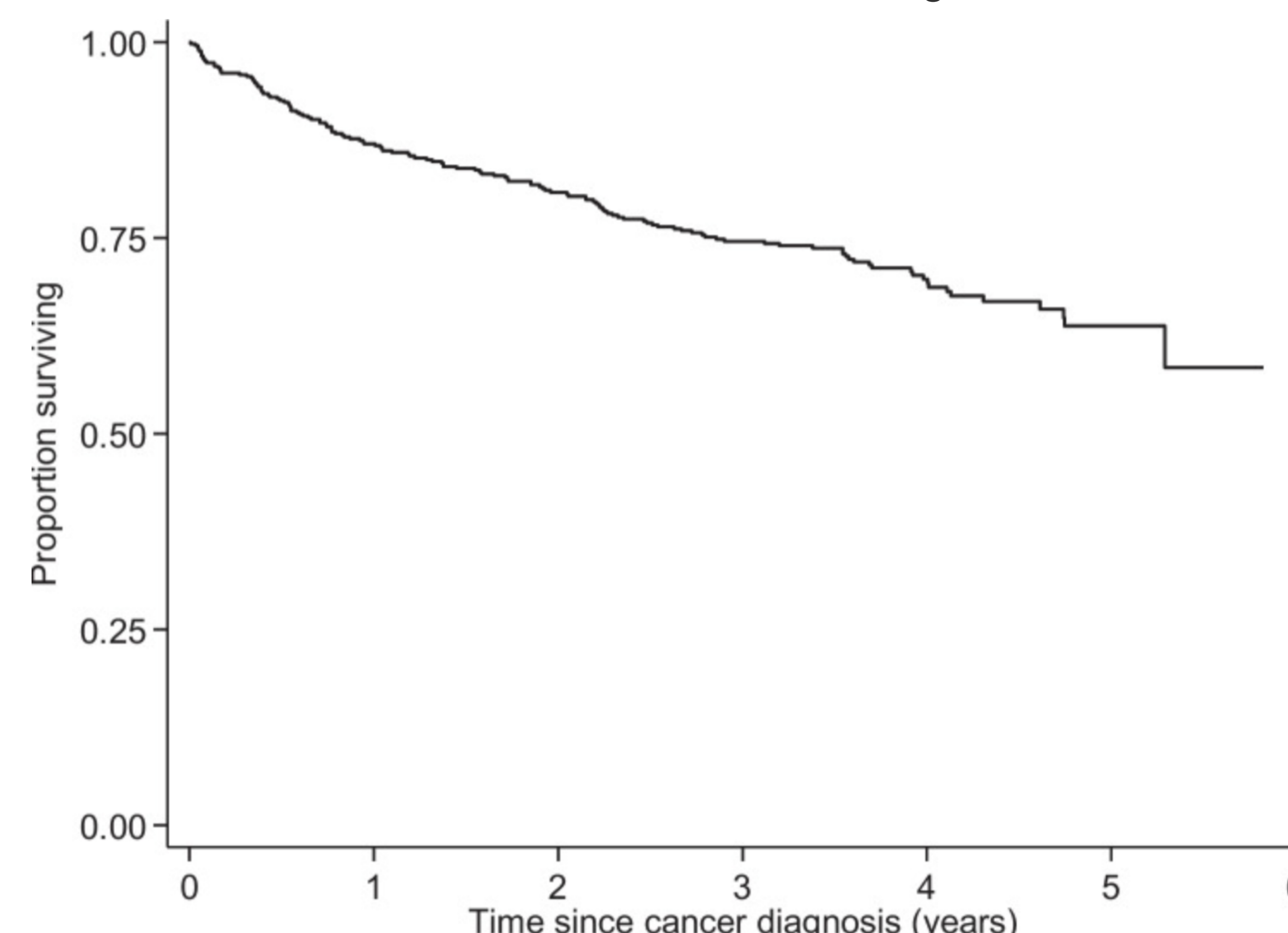


Figure 2. Kaplan-Meier plot of patient survival after cancer diagnosis

Table. Patient characteristics by onset of new mental health condition after cancer diagnosis (N = 456)

	Mental Health Diagnosis (N = 383)	No Mental Health Diagnosis (N = 73)
Pre-Cancer MH Dx	9	78
Sex		
Female	44	186
Male	29	197
Age at Cancer Dx	68	66
Insurance		
Private	20	123
Medicaid	9	28
Medicare	38	203
Military	3	8
Uninsured	3	21
Race and ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic White	53	230
Non-Hispanic Black	16	140
None of the above	4	13
Marital Status		
Married	28	189
Divorce/Sep./Widow	27	118
Single	18	76
Tobacco Usage		
Current	13	63
Previous	25	145
None	35	175

DISCUSSION

- MH conditions may impact CRC outcomes.
- Standardized screenings may alleviate some of the MH burden that patients with CRC experience in addition to potentially improving the overall health of patients.
- Directs future studies analyzing the risks of new-onset MH conditions in other types of cancers.
- Further expands the importance of psychiatric support in patients with cancer.