



Letter Re: "Annual All-Cause Mortality Rate in Germany and Japan (2005 to 2022) With Focus on The Covid-19 Pandemic: Hypotheses And Trend Analyses. Med Clin Sci. 2023; 5(2):1-7." By Scherb H, Hayashi K

Alfred Körblein

Untere Söldnergasse 8, D-90403 Nürnberg, Germany

Correspondence

Dr. Alfred Körblein

Untere Söldnergasse 8, D-90403 Nürnberg, Germany

Tel: +49 911 2358134

E-mail: alfred.koerblein@gmx.de

Sir,

Scherb and Hayashi examined trends in all-cause mortality in Japan and Germany to determine whether there was excess mortality from the Corona epidemic.

My analysis of the data for Germany in their Table 4, using Poisson regression with a simple broken-stick model, fit the data in 2005-2020 well albeit with a large overdispersion; the variance is 2,123 with 15 degrees of freedom.

The change in the trend parameter in 2019 is highly statistically significant ($p=0.00014$, F-test). As can be seen from Figure 1, this parsimonious model reflects the trend of the data well.

From the difference between the number of observed and predicted deaths, 133,807 (95% CI: 81,451; 188,290) excess deaths are estimated over the period 2020-2022. The excess corresponds to a mean increase of 4.6% (2.8%; 6.4%) in total mortality.

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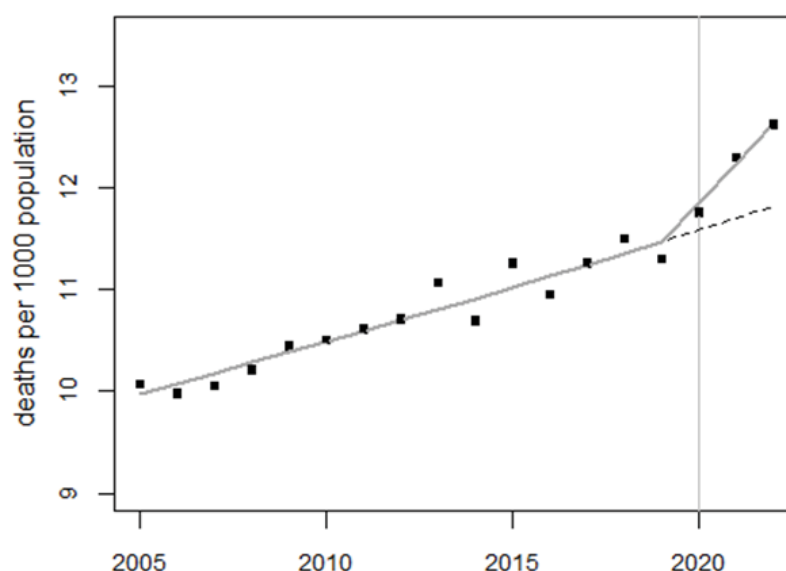


Figure 1. Total Mortality in Germany, 2005-2022, and regression line. The vertical line marks 2020, the first year of the Corona epidemic.

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