Cox Regression vs. Logistic Regression

	Cox Regression	Logistic Regression
Outcome	T = time to event	Y = indicator of event
	continuous, positive	binary (0/1): Yes/No
		(usually individuals followed for the same time)

	Cox Regression	Logistic Regression
What we model	(log) Hazard rate	(log) Odds
	$h(t) = \lim_{\Delta \to 0} \frac{P(t \le T < t + \Delta   T \ge t)}{\Delta}$	odds = $\frac{P(Y=1)}{1-P(Y=1)}$
Units	time <sup>-1</sup>	unitless

Model	
Cox Regression	$\log(h(t X)) = \log(h_o(t)) + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \dots$
Logistic Regression	$\log(\text{odds}(X)) = \text{logit} (\pi(X)) = \beta_o + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \dots$
	where $\pi(X) = P(Y=1 X)$

	Cox Regression	Logistic Regression
Interpretation in terms of	Hazard ratios ( $e^{\beta}$ )	Odds ratios ( $e^{\beta}$ )
	between two groups (after controlling for other covariates)	

	Cox Regression	Logistic Regression
Type of model	Semiparametric	Fully parametric
	Form of baseline hazard $(h_o(t))$ not specified	Form of (log) odds fully specified through $\beta$ 's
	Estimated only hazard ratios between reference and other groups	

	Cox Regression	Logistic Regression
Assumptions	Independent observations	Independent observations
	Censoring independent of time to event	
	Proportional hazard (rates) = hazard ratio between two groups constant over time	

	Cox Regression	Logistic Regression
Restrictions	May be invalid if proportional hazard assumption is violated	Cannot be used when the outcome is censored

## **Cox Regression - Example**

## Addicts Data

- Outcome = time to event (dropout from the maintenance treatment program) in days
- Status = censored(0) / observed(1)
- Clinic =  $A/B \rightarrow clinicB = indicator of clinic B$
- Dose = dose of methadone (50-110 mg)  $\rightarrow$  Dose<sub>50</sub> = Dose 50

## Let's consider models:

- (1)  $\log(h(t|X)) = \log(h_o(t)) + \beta_1 \text{ClinicB}$
- (2)  $\log(h(t|X)) = \log(h_o(t)) + \beta_2 Dose$
- (3)  $\log(h(t|X)) = \log(h_o(t)) + \beta_1 \text{ClinicB} + \beta_2 \text{Dose}$
- (4)  $\log(h(t|X)) = \log(h_o(t)) + \beta_1 ClinicB + \beta_2 Dose_{50} + \beta_3 ClinicB * Dose_{50}$

Interpretation of parameters?

- (1)  $\log(h(t|X)) = \log(h_o(t)) + \beta_1 \text{ClinicB}$ 
  - β<sub>1</sub> Log hazard ratio of dropout from the maintenance treatment program between patients in clinic B and A.

- (2)  $\log(h(t|X)) = \log(h_o(t)) + \beta_2 Dose$ 
  - β<sub>2</sub> Log hazard ratio of dropout from the maintenance treatment program between two individuals whose dosage differs by 1 mg.

- 3)  $\log(h(t|X)) = \log(h_o(t)) + \beta_1 \text{ClinicB} + \beta_2 \text{Dose}$ 
  - β<sub>1</sub> Log hazard ratio of dropout from the maintenance treatment program between patients in clinics B and A who take the same dosage of methadone.
  - β<sub>2</sub> Log hazard ratio of dropout from the maintenance treatment program between two individuals who are at the same clinic and whose dosage differs by 1 mg.

- (4)  $\log(h(t|X)) = \log(h_o(t)) + \beta_1 ClinicB + \beta_2 Dose_{50} + \beta_3 ClinicB * Dose_{50}$ 
  - β<sub>1</sub> Log hazard ratio of dropout from the maintenance treatment program between patients in clinics B and A who take 50-mg dose of methadone.
  - β<sub>2</sub> Log hazard ratio of dropout from the maintenance treatment program between two individuals who are at clinic A and whose dosage differs by 1 mg.
  - β<sub>3</sub> Difference in log hazard ratio of dropout from the maintenance treatment program corresponding to a 1 mg difference in the methadone dosage between clinic B and A.
  - β<sub>2</sub> + β<sub>3</sub> Log hazard ratio of dropout from the maintenance treatment program between two individuals whose dosage differs by 1 mg and who are at clinic B.