Table 2. Summary of studies on prognostic factors.

Study descriptors	Author, year	Outcome definitions	Independent variables (months)	Length of follow-up (months)	Sample size	Baseline age (years)	Women (%)	Methodo-logical quality score	Measure of association
EPESE (NH, NC)	Mendes de Leon et al 1997[15]	Recovery Death	Age, sex, BMI, income, cognitive function no.of chronic illnesses, race	120	?	65	63.4	11	OR
EPESE (NH, EB, I)	Salive et al 1994[11]	Improvement (mobility, activities of daily living)	Visual function	12	1083	70	66	10	RR
NLTCS	Boaz et al 1994[12]	Improved Deteriorated-alive Deteriorated-dead	Age, sex, insurance, hospitalisation, chronic condition, mortality rate, cognitive function	24	5722	65	?	11	Coefficient, probability
PAQUID	Sauvel et al 1994[14]	Independent Dependent	Age, sex, residence, visual impairment, hearing impairment, joint pain, dyspnoea, cognitive function, depression	12	1850	65	58.5	12	OR
NH, CT	Hardy, 2005[13]	Time to recovery	Age, sex, race, education, living conditions, comorbidity, medications, BMI, cognitive function, depression, psychological factors, social factors, physical activity, smoking, alcohol, physical tests, prior disability status	≥3 (7.2±8.5)[a]	420	70	64.8	13	HR
Israel	Walk et al 1999[18]	Improvement (bathing, eating, continence, mobility)	Age, sex, functional factors, institutional factors (length of stay, quality of care)	36 (?)	2527	65	73.6	10	OR
Taiwan	Zimmer et al 1998[17]	Independent Dead	Age, sex, education, marital status, residence, social network, activity level, smoking, alcohol, self-rated health	48	947	60	56	13	Standardised coefficient
Japan	Liu et al[16] 1995	Not disabled Disabled, Dead Non response	Age, sex, education, marital status, residence, social network, chronic disease, activity level, smoking, alcohol, self-rated health, loneliness	36	206	60	54.6	12	Coefficient probability

EPESE= Established Populations for Epidemiologic Studies of the Elderly. NH = New Haven. NC = North Carolina. EB = East Boston. I = Iowa. NLTCS = National Long Term Care Survey. PAQUID = Personnes Agées QUID. CT = Connecticut. BMI= body mass index. ? unclear presentation. [a]mean ± standard deviation (proportional hazards regression). OR = odds ratio, RR = relative risk, HR = hazard ratio.