

et al. (88) and by Dirix et al. (89) and a study of prostate cancer by Roach et al. (90). Date of diagnosis likely occurs only shortly before date of randomization. The *diagnosis date* was used to begin various time periods in a study of breast cancer by DiGiovanna, et al. (91). In the DiGiovanna study, *diagnosis date* was used for calculating various endpoints. In Ferrier et al. (92) the starting date was the *date of registration* in the clinical trial. Similarly, Betticher et al. (93) used *date of enrollment* for calculating various endpoints.

Date of surgery has also been used as a start date for endpoint calculations. In studies of colon cancer by Berger et al. (94) by Mitry et al. (95) and by Lembersky et al. (96) *the date of surgery* was used as the start date for calculating various endpoints. In studies of breast cancer by Merlo et al. (97) Colleoni et al. (98) and Bilimoria et al. (99) endpoints were calculated from the *date of surgery*. In a clinical trial of esophageal surgery, Allum et al. (100) used a date occurring at *six months after surgery* as the start date. Where date of surgery is used as the start date, this method for endpoint calculation (for the endpoint of DFS) prevents the particular inconsistency detailed earlier in this textbook in the chapter on disease-free survival.

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