Acknowledgments

Thinking about the statistical methods, writing about them, coding the computation, and analysing data have been very much a joint effort in the past years. Discussions with collaborators have helped me to understand both the scope and the finer details of multi-state survival models. Special thanks to Fiona Matthews for supervising my first years of research on this topic, and for all the joint work. I would also like to thank my collaborators Tirza Buter, Jean-Paul Fox, Jutta Gampe, Carol Jagger, Venediktos Kapetanakis, Rinke Klein Entink, Robson Machado, Riccardo Marioni, Graciela Muniz-Terrera, Ekaterina Ogurtsova, Nora Pashayan, Luz Sanchez-Romero, and Brian Tom.

I am grateful to the Medical Research Council Biostatistics Unit in Cambridge, and the Department of Statistical Science, University College London, for allowing me time for research. I would like to thank the colleagues at these two institutes who helped my research with discussions and feedback. Thanks also to those students at University College London who did research projects on multi-state models. These projects have been an additional source for learning and insight.

I am in debt to the people who made it possible to use the longitudinal data for the examples in this book. This includes both the participants in the studies and the teams who collected and managed the data; see Section 1.5.

Thanks to Rob Calver at CRC Press for encouragement to write this book, and for his help and patience. Finally, many thanks to the two anonymous reviewers of the book manuscript. Their detailed and substantial remarks have been a great help in improving the material.