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| **Model** | **Variables**  | **QIC** |
| Hospital & temporal | 7-knot spline, sin and cosine (f=365 days), hospital | -1167 |
| Climate variables  | 7-knot spline, sin and cosine (f=365 days), hospital, climate variables | -1186 |
| Final model | 7-knot spline, sin and cosine (f=365 days), hospital, climate variables and interactions | -1203 |

QIC=quasi-likelihood under the independence model information criterion