

Population-adjusted treatment comparisons

AUDIENCE/PANEL DISCUSSION

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Panel:

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Discussion: Selection of Effect Modifiers (EMs)

- Trade-off between bias vs precision ... depending on which and how many EMs to include
 - Can we make decisions based on low Effective Sample Sizes? (eg ESS=13 ...)
- Subjective
 - Can experts distinguish between prognostic factors and effect modifiers? How to reach consensus?
- Low statistical power to identify EMs from IPD
- Not all EMs may be reported in all studies ... can introduce bias (especially if missing in AD studies)

Discussion: Decision Population

- MAIC and STC give estimate in competitor population
 - ... two manufacturers will get different estimates from the same studies ...
 - May be little over-lap between populations (low ESS)
- Should we always adjust for population differences?
 - Is it desirable to have different efficacy estimates in different jurisdictions?
 - Information sources for decision population characteristics?
 - RCTs may not be representative in general

Discussion: Methods Developments

- Need for methods to extend to wider networks of evidence
- Methods to check assumptions / quantify extent of bias
- Adjust for internal as well as external biases