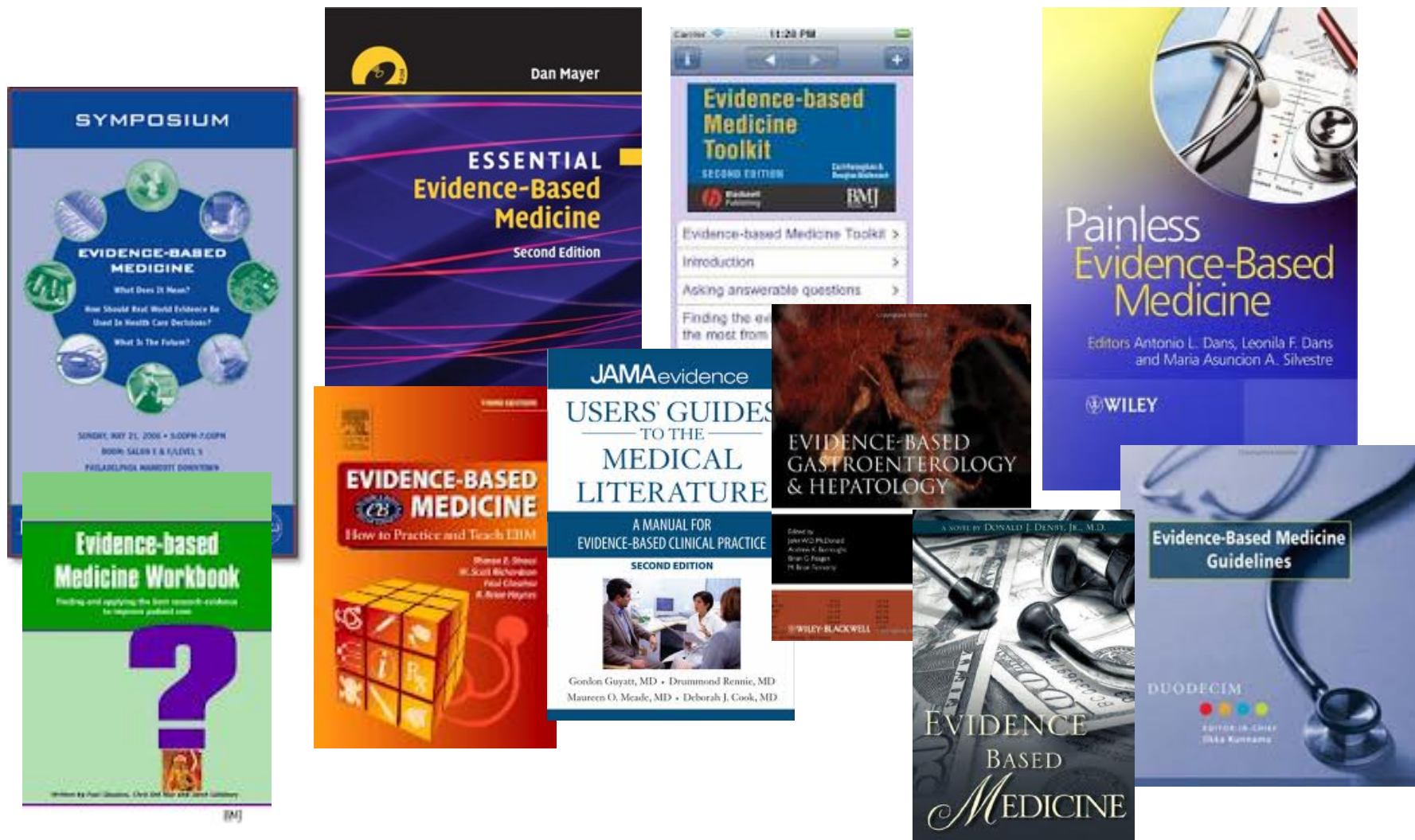


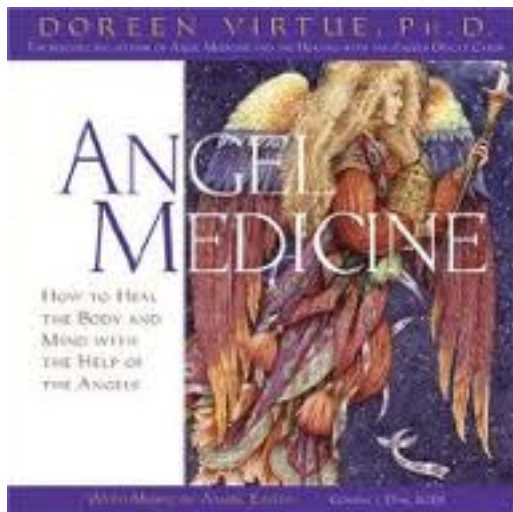
# Big-Data-Driven Medicine

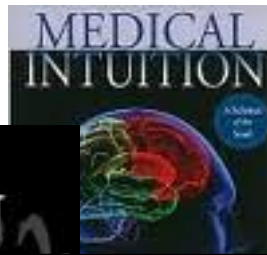
Can big data save medicine?

David Madigan  
Department of Statistics  
Columbia University



“Evidence-Based Medicine” as against ???





# MEDICAL INTUITION

## clinical judgment,

the application of information based on actual observation of a patient combined with subjective and objective data that lead to a conclusion.

Mosby's Medical Dictionary, 8th edition. © 2009, Elsevier.



Naomi Elliott



## Clinical Judgment in Practice Matters:

How advanced practitioners in nursing solve clinical judgment problems in community care contexts

How does the combination of Clinical  
Judgment and Evidence-Based  
Medicine work in practice?

# Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) Score Sheet™ FOR MEN

## About the CHD Score Sheet

This CHD score sheet can be used to estimate a man's risk of developing CHD over a 10-year period based on age, total cholesterol (TC), HDL cholesterol (HDL-C), blood pressure (BP), and cigarette smoking.

Risk estimates have been derived from the experience of NHLBI's Framingham Heart Study, a predominantly Caucasian population in Massachusetts, USA. The risk algorithm may not fit other populations quite as well.

### Step 1

AGE			
Years	Points	Years	Points
20-34	-9	55-59	8
35-39	-4	60-64	10
40-44	0	65-69	11
45-49	3	70-74	12
50-54	6	75-79	13

### Step 2

TC (mg/dL)	TOTAL CHOLESTEROL				
	Points				
	Age 20-39 y	Age 40-49 y	Age 50-59 y	Age 60-69 y	Age 70-79 y
<160	0	0	0	0	0
160-199	4	3	2	1	0
200-239	7	5	3	1	0
240-279	9	6	4	2	1
≥280	11	8	5	3	1

### Step 3

	SMOKING				
	Points				
	Age 20-39 y	Age 40-49 y	Age 50-59 y	Age 60-69 y	Age 70-79 y
Nonsmoker	0	0	0	0	0
Smoker	8	5	3	1	1

### Step 4

HDL CHOLESTEROL	
HDL-C (mg/dL)	Points
≥60	-1
50-59	0
40-49	1
<40	2

### Step 5

BLOOD PRESSURE		
Systolic BP (mm Hg)	Points If Untreated	Points If Treated
<120	0	0
120-129	0	1
130-139	1	2
140-159	1	2
≥160	2	3

### Step 6

ADDING UP THE POINTS	
(Sum from Steps 1-5)	
Age	
TC	
Smoker	
HDL-C	
BP	
<b>Point Total</b>	

### CHD RISK

DETERMINE CHD RISK FROM POINT TOTAL	
Point Total	10-year CHD Risk
<0	<1%
0	1%
1	1%
2	1%
3	1%
4	1%
5	2%
6	2%
7	3%
8	4%
9	5%
10	6%
11	8%
12	10%
13	12%
14	16%
15	20%
16	25%
≥17	≥30%

Your chance of developing CHD (angina or heart attack) over the next 10 years is:

2%

\*NCEP Expert Panel. Third report of the Expert Panel on Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Cholesterol in Adults (Adult Treatment Panel III) Executive Summary. Available at [http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/cholesterol/atp\\_iii.htm](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/cholesterol/atp_iii.htm). Accessed May 31, 2001.

48 years old  
HDL = 59  
LDL = 70  
triglycerides = 106  
C-Peptide normal

# Should John have an angiogram?

LDL = 70  
father died of heart di:  
university professor  
calcium score in 2003 = 19  
calcium score in 2009 = 41  
calcium score in 2010 = 70  
BMI = 21.6

# Clinical judgment?

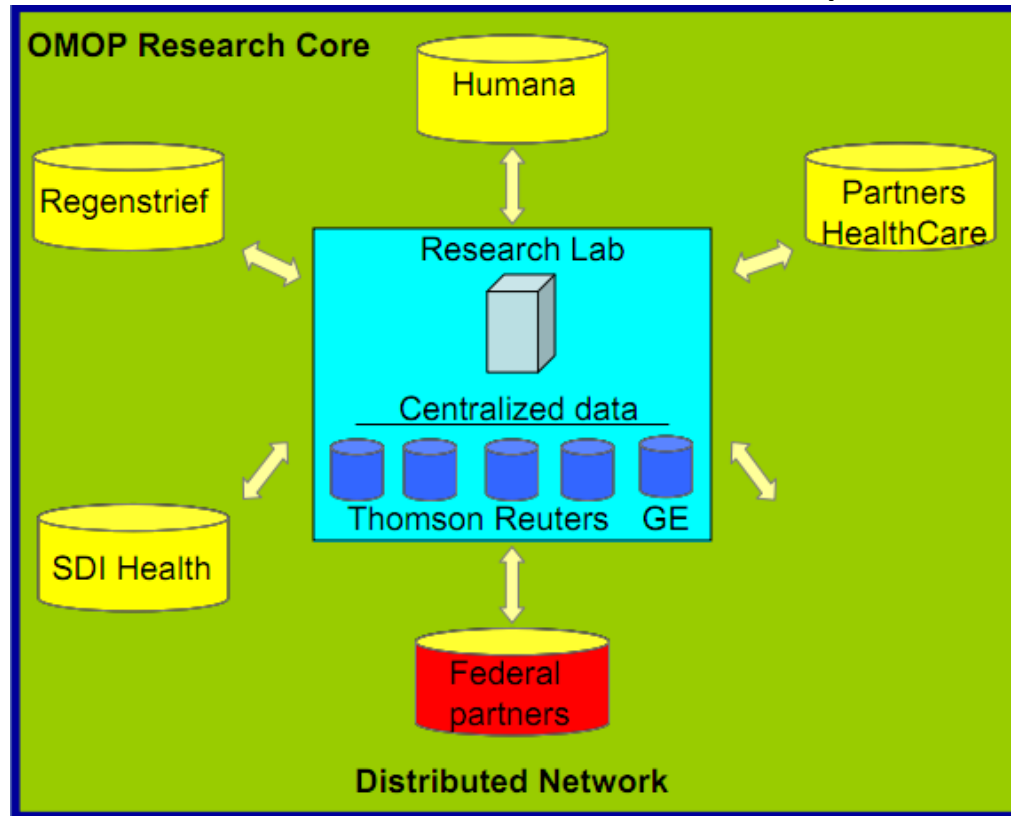


no diabetes  
stress test normal in 2007  
mother died of cancer (83)  
EKG unusual in 2009  
aspirin  
exercise  
lipitor  
arrhythmia in 2008  
genotyping  
normal heart ultrasound (2008)

# Who are we kidding?

# Data-Driven Medicine

## Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership



- Multiple years of medical records for 200+ million people
- Largest collection of medical records in the world
- 32,430 patients just like John



# Many Challenges

- Statistical/Epidemiological
- Computational
- Drug Safety

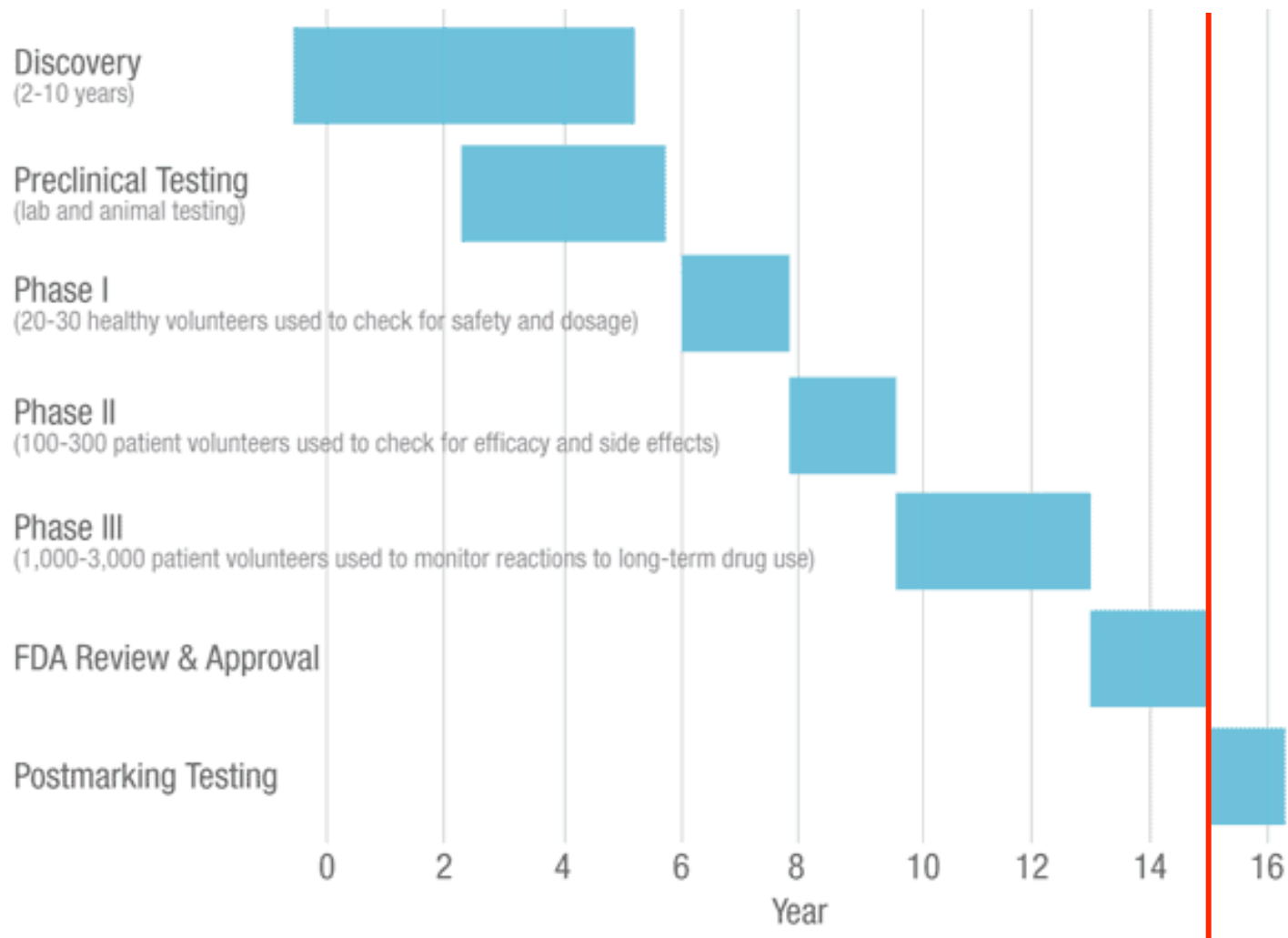
**VIOXX**  
(rofecoxib, MSD)



**BAYCOL**  
cerivastatin  
sodium tablets



# Safety in Lifecycle of a Drug/Biologic product



# Drug Safety

## Pre-Approval:

- **High quality data (but small)**
- **No "data mining"**

## Post-Approval:

- **Low quality data (but lots of it)**
- **Extensive use of "data mining"**

# MEDWATCH

For VOLUNTARY reporting of  
adverse events, product problems and  
product use errors

## The FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program

Page \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

FDA USE ONLY	
Triage unit sequence #	

A. PATIENT INFORMATION			
1. Patient Identifier	2. Age at Time of Event, or Date of Birth:	3. Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male	4. Weight _____ lb or _____ kg
In confidence			

B. ADVERSE EVENT, PRODUCT PROBLEM OR ERROR	
Check all that apply:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adverse Event	<input type="checkbox"/> Product Problem (e.g., defects/malfunctions)
<input type="checkbox"/> Product Use Error	<input type="checkbox"/> Problem with Different Manufacturer of Same Medicine
2. Outcomes Attributed to Adverse Event (Check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Death: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)	<input type="checkbox"/> Disability or Permanent Damage
<input type="checkbox"/> Life-threatening	<input type="checkbox"/> Congenital Anomaly/Birth Defect
<input type="checkbox"/> Hospitalization - initial or prolonged	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Serious (Important Medical Events)
<input type="checkbox"/> Required Intervention to Prevent Permanent Impairment/Damage (Devices)	
3. Date of Event (mm/dd/yyyy)	4. Date of this Report (mm/dd/yyyy)

5. Describe Event, Problem or Product Use Error
6. Relevant Tests/Laboratory Data, including Dates
7. Other Relevant History, including Preexisting Medical Conditions (e.g., allergies, race, pregnancy, smoking and alcohol use, liver/kidney problems, etc.)

C. PRODUCT AVAILABILITY	
Product Available for Evaluation? (Do not send product to FDA)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Returned to Manufacturer on: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)	

D. SUSPECT PRODUCT(S)		
1. Name, Strength, Manufacturer (from product label)		
#1		
#2		
2. Dose or Amount	Frequency	Route
#1		
#2		
3. Dates of Use (If unknown, give duration) from/to (or best estimate)	5. Event Abated After Use Stopped or Dose Reduced?	
#1	#1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Apply	
#2	#2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Apply	
4. Diagnosis or Reason for Use (Indication)	8. Event Reappeared After Reintroduction?	
#1	#1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Apply	
#2	#2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't Apply	
6. Lot #	7. Expiration Date	9. NDC # or Unique ID
#1	#1	
#2	#2	

E. SUSPECT MEDICAL DEVICE		
1. Brand Name		
2. Common Device Name		
3. Manufacturer Name, City and State		
4. Model #	Lot #	5. Operator of Device
Catalog #	Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Professional
Serial #	Other #	<input type="checkbox"/> Lay User/Patient
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
6. If Implanted, Give Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	7. If Explanted, Give Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	
8. Is this a Single-use Device that was Reprocessed and Reused on a Patient?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
9. If Yes to Item No. 8, Enter Name and Address of Reprocessor		

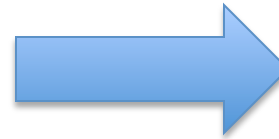
F. OTHER (CONCOMITANT) MEDICAL PRODUCTS
Product names and therapy dates (exclude treatment of event)

G. REPORTER (See confidentiality section on back)		
1. Name and Address		
Phone #		
E-mail		
2. Health Professional?	3. Occupation	4. Also Reported to:
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturer
5. If you do NOT want your identity disclosed to the manufacturer, place an "X" in this box: <input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> User/Facility
		<input type="checkbox"/> Distributor/Importer

PLEASE TYPE OR USE BLACK INK

# Problems with Spontaneous Reports

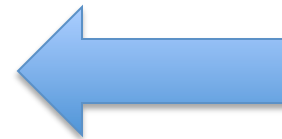
- Under-reporting
- Duplicate reports
- No temporal information
- No denominator



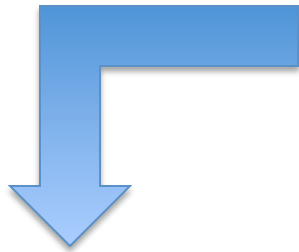
Vioxx  
Baycol  
etc.



IOM  
FDA



Sentinel  
EU-ADR  
OMOP



Active surveillance in large, longitudinal databases

(3) Active postmarket risk identification.--

``(A) Definition.--In this paragraph, the term `data' refers to information with respect to a drug approved under this section or under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act, including claims data, patient survey data, standardized analytic files that allow for the pooling and analysis of data from disparate data environments, and any other data deemed appropriate by the Secretary.

``(B) Development of <<NOTE: Deadline.>> postmarket risk identification and analysis methods.--The Secretary shall, not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007, in collaboration with public, academic, and private entities--

``(i) develop methods to obtain access to disparate data sources including the data sources specified in subparagraph (C);

``(ii) develop validated methods for the establishment of a postmarket risk identification and analysis system to link and analyze safety data from multiple sources, with the goals of including, in aggregate--

``(I) at least 25,000,000 patients by July 1, 2010; and

``(II) at least 100,000,000 patients by July 1, 2012; and

---

### Oral bisphosphonates and risk of cancer of oesophagus, stomach, and colorectum: case-control analysis within a UK primary care cohort

Jane Green, clinical epidemiologist,<sup>1</sup> Gabriela Czanner, statistician,<sup>1</sup> Gillian Reeves, statistical epidemiologist,<sup>1</sup> Joanna Watson, epidemiologist,<sup>1</sup> Lesley Wise, manager, Pharmacoepidemiology Research and Intelligence Unit,<sup>2</sup> Valerie Beral, professor of cancer epidemiology<sup>1</sup>

BMJ 2010; 341:c4444

**Conclusions** The risk of oesophageal cancer increased with 10 or more prescriptions for oral bisphosphonates and with prescriptions over about a five year period.

# BMJ study design choices

- Data source: General Practice Research Database
- Study design: Nested case-control
- Inclusion criteria: Age > 40
- Case: cancer diagnosis between 1995-2005 with 12-months of follow-up pre-diagnosis
- 5 controls per case
- Matched on age at index date, sex, practice, observation period prior to index
- Exposure definition:  $\geq 1$  prescription during observation period
- “RR” estimated with conditional logistic regression
- Covariates: smoking, alcohol, BMI before *outcome* index date
- Sensitivity analyses:
  - exposure = 2+ prescriptions
  - covariates not missing
  - time-at-risk = >1 yr post-exposure
- Subgroup analyses:
  - Short vs. long exposure duration
  - Age, Sex, smoking, alcohol, BMI
  - Osteoporosis or osteopenia
  - Fracture pre-exposure
  - Prior diagnosis of Upper GI dx pre-exposure
  - NSAID, corticosteroid, H2blocker, PPI utilization pre-exposure

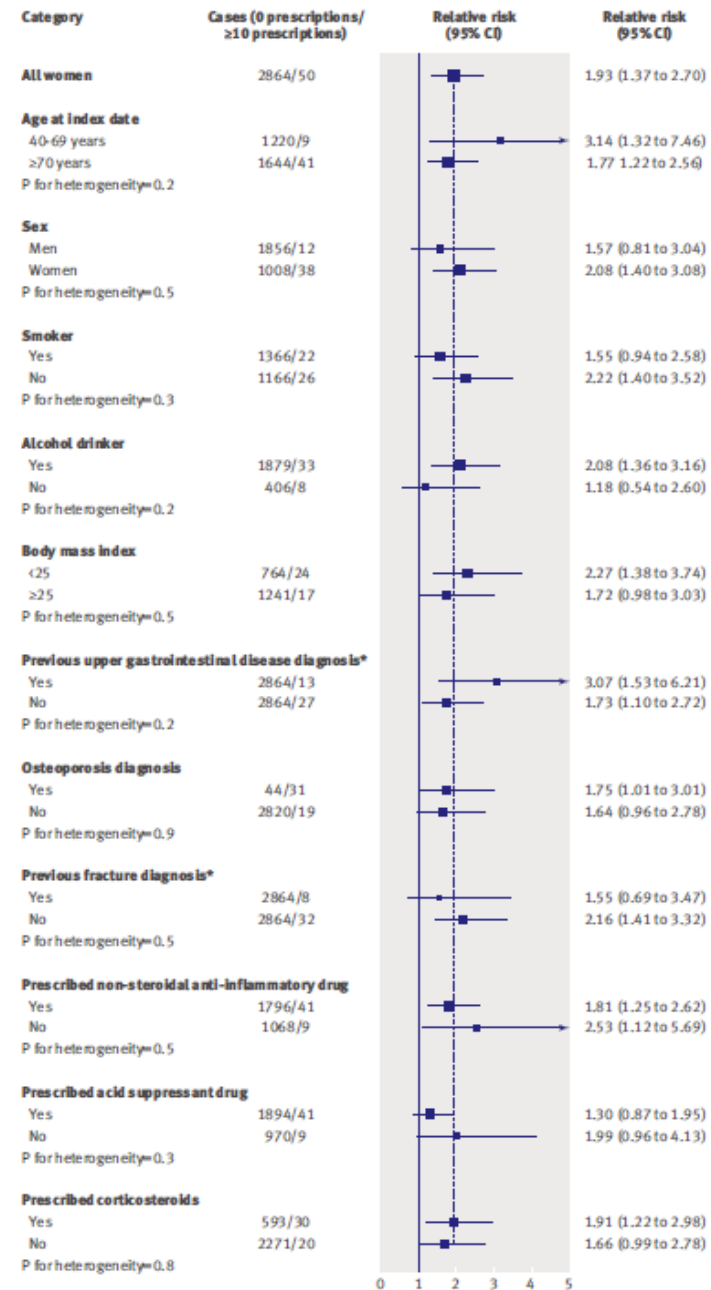


# BMJ Results

**Table 2 | Relative risks (RRs) and 95% confidence intervals (CIs) for bisphosphonates**

Oral bisphosphonates	Oesophagus		RR† (95% CI)
	Prescriptions*	Cases/controls	
Not prescribed	NA	2864/14 376	1.00
Prescribed	13.6/2.4	90/345	<b>1.30 (1.02 to 1.66)</b>
<b>No of prescriptions:</b>			
1-9	3.6/1.0	40/214	0.93 (0.66 to 1.31)
≥10	21.6/3.5	50/131	1.93 (1.37 to 2.70)
<b>Estimated duration of use‡:</b>			
≤1 year	4.9/0.3	31/155	0.98 (0.66 to 1.46)
1-3 years	13.0/2.0	26/114	1.12 (0.73 to 1.73)
≥3 years	22.2/4.6	33/76	2.24 (1.47 to 3.43)

NA=not applicable.  
 \*Prescriptions of bisphosphonates in cases; reported as mean number/mean year  
 †All relative risks adjusted for smoking status, alcohol intake, and body mass index  
 ‡Time between first and last prescription.



Relative risks of incident oesophageal cancer in people with ≥10 prescriptions for oral bisphosphonates, compared with those with no prescriptions, by various factors. Relative risks adjusted for smoking status, alcohol intake, and body mass index, as appropriate. \*Diagnosis before prescription of bisphosphonates: analyses restricted to those with ≥12 months' observation before first bisphosphonate prescription

JAMA<sup>®</sup>

# Exposure to Oral Bisphosphonates and Risk of Esophageal Cancer

---

Chris R. Cardwell, PhD

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Christian C. Abnet, PhD

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Marie M. Cantwell, PhD

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Liam J. Murray, MD

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**Context** Use of oral bisphosphonates has increased dramatically in the United States and elsewhere. Esophagitis is a known adverse effect of bisphosphonate use, and recent reports suggest a link between bisphosphonate use and esophageal cancer, but this has not been robustly investigated.

**Objective** To investigate the association between bisphosphonate use and esoph-

JAMA 2010; 304(6): 657-663

## Conclusion

of oral bisphosphonates was not significantly associated with incident esophageal or gastric cancer. the use

# JAMA study design choices

- ✓ Data source: General Practice Research Database
  - ✗ Study design: Cohort
  - ✓ Inclusion criteria: Age > 40
  - ✓ Exclusion criteria: Cancer diagnosis in 3 years before index date
  - ✗ Exposed cohort: Patients with  $\geq 1$  prescription between 1996-2006
  - ✓ "Unexposed" cohort: 1-to-1 match with exposed cohort
  - ✗ Matched on year of birth, sex, practice
  - ✓ "HR" estimated with Cox proportional hazards model
  - Time-at-risk: >6mo from index date
  - Covariates:
    - ✗ Smoking, alcohol, BMI before *exposure* index date
    - ✓ Hormone therapy, NSAIDs, H2blockers, PPIs
  - Sensitivity analyses:
    - Excluding people that were in both exposed and unexposed cohorts
    - Exclude patients with missing confounders (not reported)
  - Subgroup analyses:
    - Low vs. medium vs. high use, based on defined daily dose
    - Alendronate vs. nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates vs. non-nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates
- 1995-2005 in BMJ
- Match exposure vs. Not observation length outcome status; not 5-to-1
- Time-at-risk is 'between' two definitions used in BMJ: All time post-exposure and >1yr after index
- Different index date
- BMJ didn't stratify by hormone therapy

# JAMA Results

**Table 3.** Esophageal (Only) Cancer Incidence in the Bisphosphonate and Matched Control Cohorts

Bisphosphonate Category	Bisphosphonate		Control		Risk			
	Cases	Person-Years	Cases	Person-Years	Unadjusted		Adjusted <sup>a</sup>	
					HR (95% CI)	P Value	HR (95% CI)	P Value
Any bisphosphonate Prescribed	79	165 400	72	163 480	1.08 (0.79-1.49)	.63	1.07 (0.77-1.49)	.67
Incidence after cumulative prescriptions greater than (in DDDs) <sup>b</sup>								
183	51	104 676	49	104 104	1.04 (0.70-1.53)	.86	1.05 (0.70-1.57)	.82
365	31	73 364	35	73 170	0.88 (0.55-1.43)	.62	0.92 (0.56-1.51)	.74
730	22	40 326	22	40 492	1.00 (0.56-1.81)	.99	0.98 (0.53-1.81)	.95
1095	15	22 813	14	22 891	1.08 (0.52-2.23)	.84	1.01 (0.48-2.12)	.99
Total bisphosphonate intake during follow-up (in DDDs/d) <sup>c</sup>								
Low (0-<0.24)	35	62 922	27	63 648	1.31 (0.80-2.17)	.29	1.24 (0.74-2.09)	.41
Medium (≥0.24-<0.89)	24	58 162	23	55 334	0.98 (0.55-1.74)	.94	1.03 (0.57-1.86)	.92
High (≥0.89)	20	44 316	22	44 497	0.91 (0.50-1.67)	.78	0.90 (0.48-1.68)	.74
Nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates								
First prescribed	44	106 480	47	106 412	0.94 (0.62-1.41)	.75	0.96 (0.63-1.47)	.86
Incidence after cumulative prescriptions greater than (in DDDs) <sup>b</sup>								
365	30	70 251	34	69 935	0.88 (0.54-1.44)	.61	0.93 (0.56-1.54)	.78
730	22	39 022	22	39 187	1.01 (0.56-1.82)	.99	0.98 (0.53-1.80)	.95
Alendronate								
First prescribed	33	81 369	42	80 837	0.78 (0.50-1.23)	.29	0.77 (0.48-1.23)	.27
Incidence after cumulative prescriptions greater than (in DDDs) <sup>b</sup>								
365	22	52 308	31	51 741	0.70 (0.41-1.21)	.20	0.68 (0.39-1.19)	.18
730	19	28 898	21	28 904	0.91 (0.49-1.68)	.75	0.85 (0.45-1.61)	.62
Non-nitrogen-containing bisphosphonates								
First prescribed	35	58 920	25	57 068	1.35 (0.81-2.25)	.25	1.25 (0.73-2.12)	.37

Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; DDD, defined daily dose; HR, hazard ratio.

<sup>a</sup>Adjusted for body mass index, alcohol, smoking, hormone therapy prescription (before index date), nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug prescription (before index date), Barrett esophagus diagnosis (before index date), gastroesophageal reflux disease diagnosis (before index date), H<sub>2</sub> receptor antagonist prescription (before index date), and proton pump inhibitor prescription (before index date).

<sup>b</sup>Person-years and cancer cases occurring after the date of specified prescriptions received for each bisphosphonate cohort member and their matched control. Daily divided dose equivalents: 183 DDDs are equivalent to a 6-month supply; 365 DDDs to a 1-year supply; 730 DDDs to a 2-year supply; and 1095 DDDs to a 3-year supply.

<sup>c</sup>In bisphosphonate cohort (see "Methods" for details of selection of cohorts).

## Acne drug tied to a doubled risk of eye problems

Recommend Be the first



## Curry spice 'lowers risk of heart attack after surgery'

- Yellow pigment in turmeric known for having anti-inflammatory properties

Bloomberg News

## Bayer Birth-Control Pill May Boost Risks for Blood Clots

By Anna Edney on April 10, 2012

## Judge fines J&J \$1.1B for antipsychotic drug risks

Verdict » Jury says company deceptive about Risperdal.

The Associated Press

First Published Apr 11 2012 04:00 pm • Last Updated Apr 11 2012 08:47 pm

## Dental X-ray safety

By Charles Bankhead, Staff Writer, MedPage Today  
Published: April 10, 2012

# Gum disease and heart disease -- no link after all?



Comments

0



Share

35



+1

0



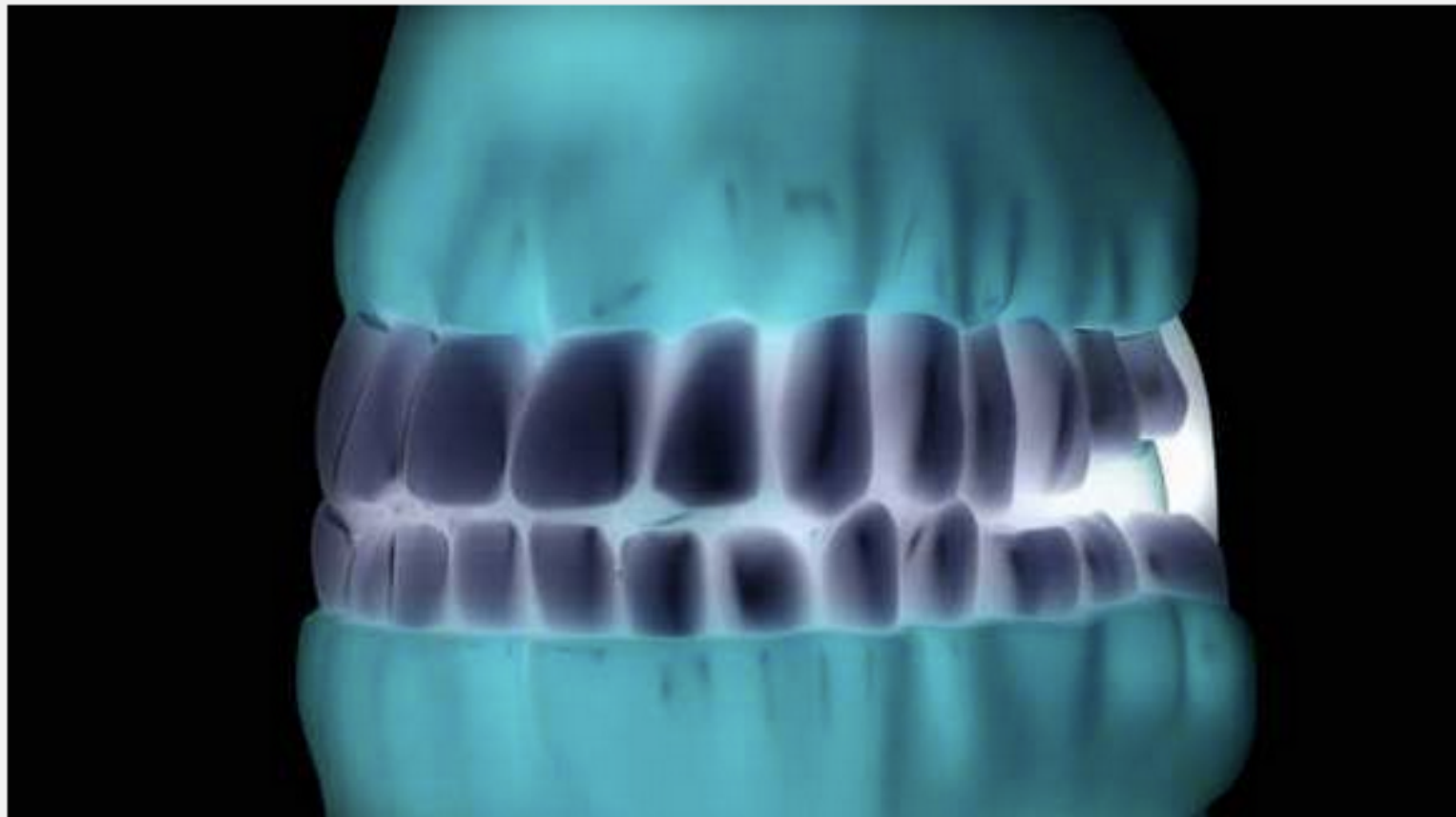
Tweet

20



Recommend

12



Gum disease, despite what we're told, may not raise the risk of heart disease or strokes. But brush your teeth anyway. (3D4Medical.com / April 18, 2012)

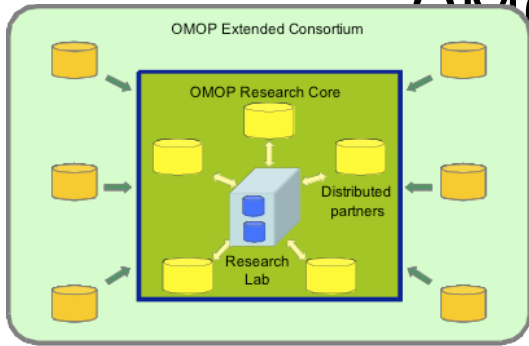
## ALSO



By Rosie Mestel, Los Angeles Times / For the Booster Shots blog

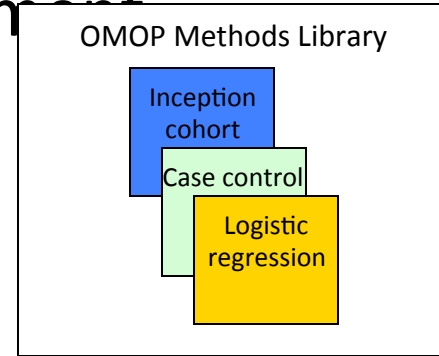
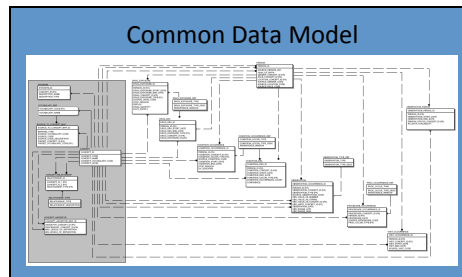
April 18, 2012 | 4:57 p.m.

# OMOP Research Experiment



- 10 data sources
- Claims and EHRs
- 200M+ lives

- Open-source
- Standards-based

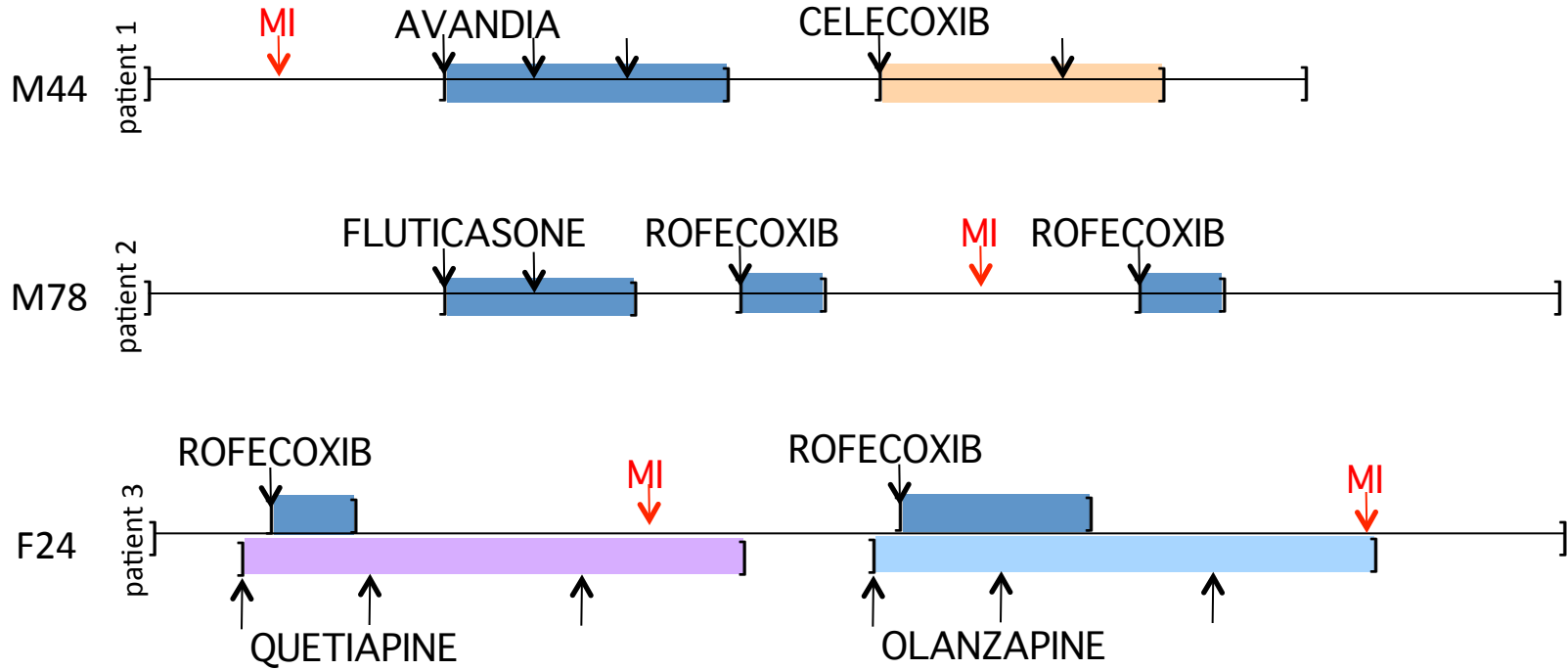


- 14 methods
- Epidemiology designs
- Statistical approaches adapted for longitudinal data



Outcome	ACE Inhibitors	Amphotericin B	Antibiotics: erythromycins, sulfonamides, tetracyclines	Antiepileptics: carbamazepine, phenytoin	Benzodiazepines	Beta blockers	Bisphosphonates: alendronate	Tricyclic antidepressants	Typical antipsychotics	Warfarin
Angioedema	Red	Blue	White	Blue	Blue	Blue	White	White	White	Blue
Aplastic Anemia	Blue	Blue	White	Red	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	White	Blue
Acute Liver Injury	White	Blue	Red	White	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	White	White
Bleeding	White	White	Blue	White	Blue	Blue	White	Blue	White	Red
Hip Fracture	Blue	Blue	Blue	White	Red	Blue	White	White	White	Blue
Hospitalization	Green	White	White	White	White	White	White	White	White	White
Myocardial Infarction	White	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Red	Red	White	White
Mortality after MI	White	Blue	Blue	Blue	Green	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
Renal Failure	White	Red	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
GI Ulcer Hospitalization	Blue	White	Blue	Blue	Blue	Red	White	Blue	White	White

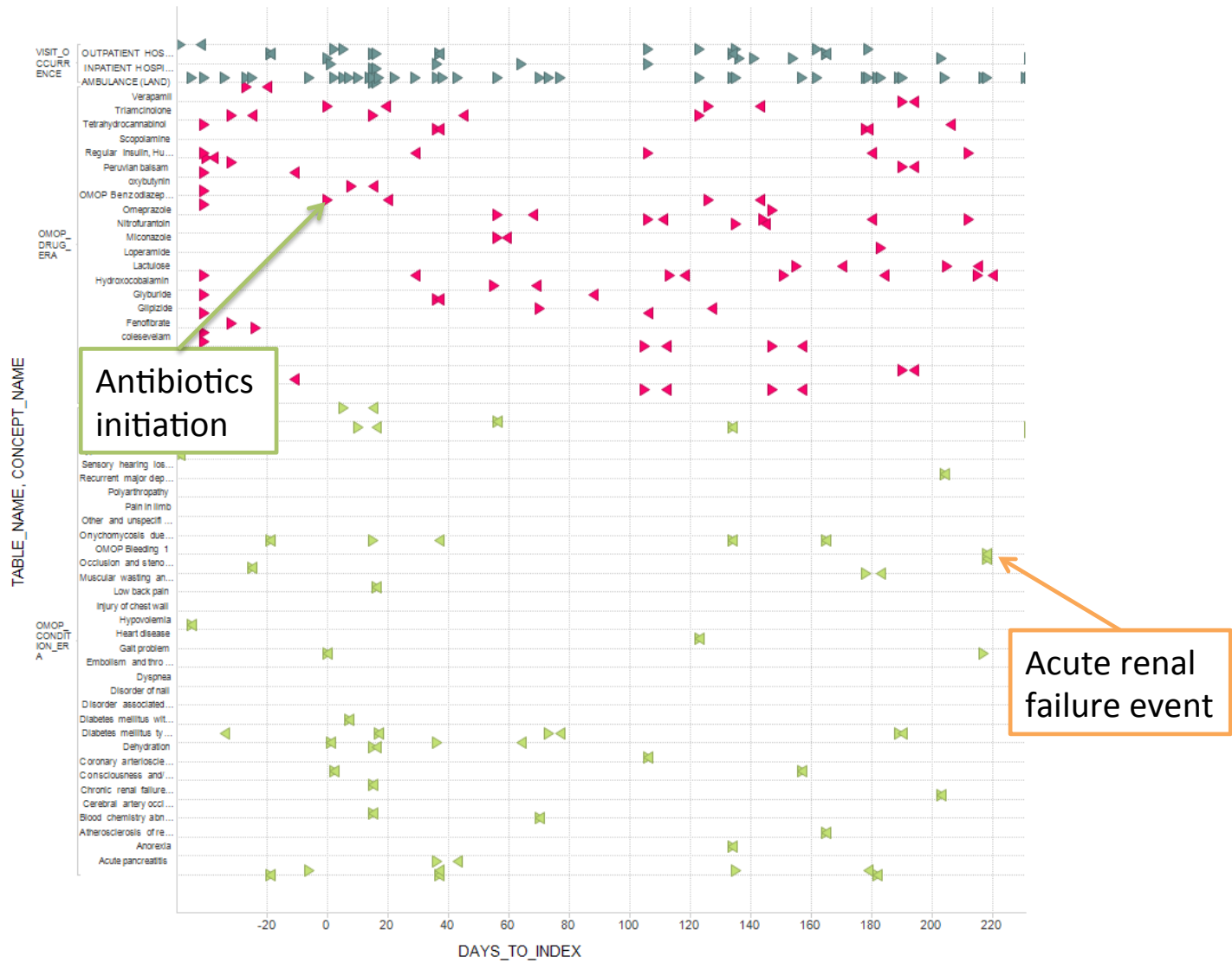
# What do the data look like?



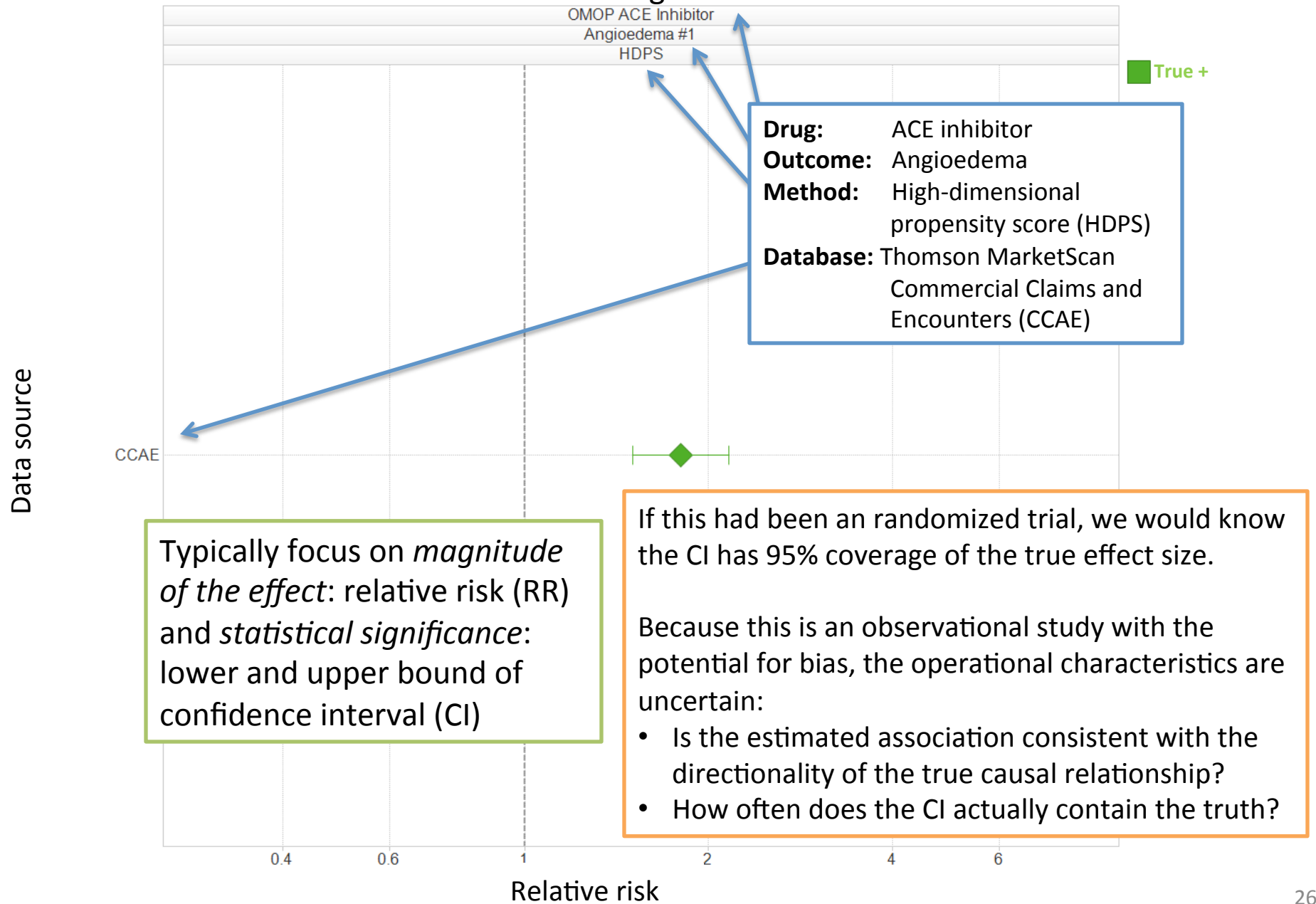
***Computational considerations require few passes through the data***



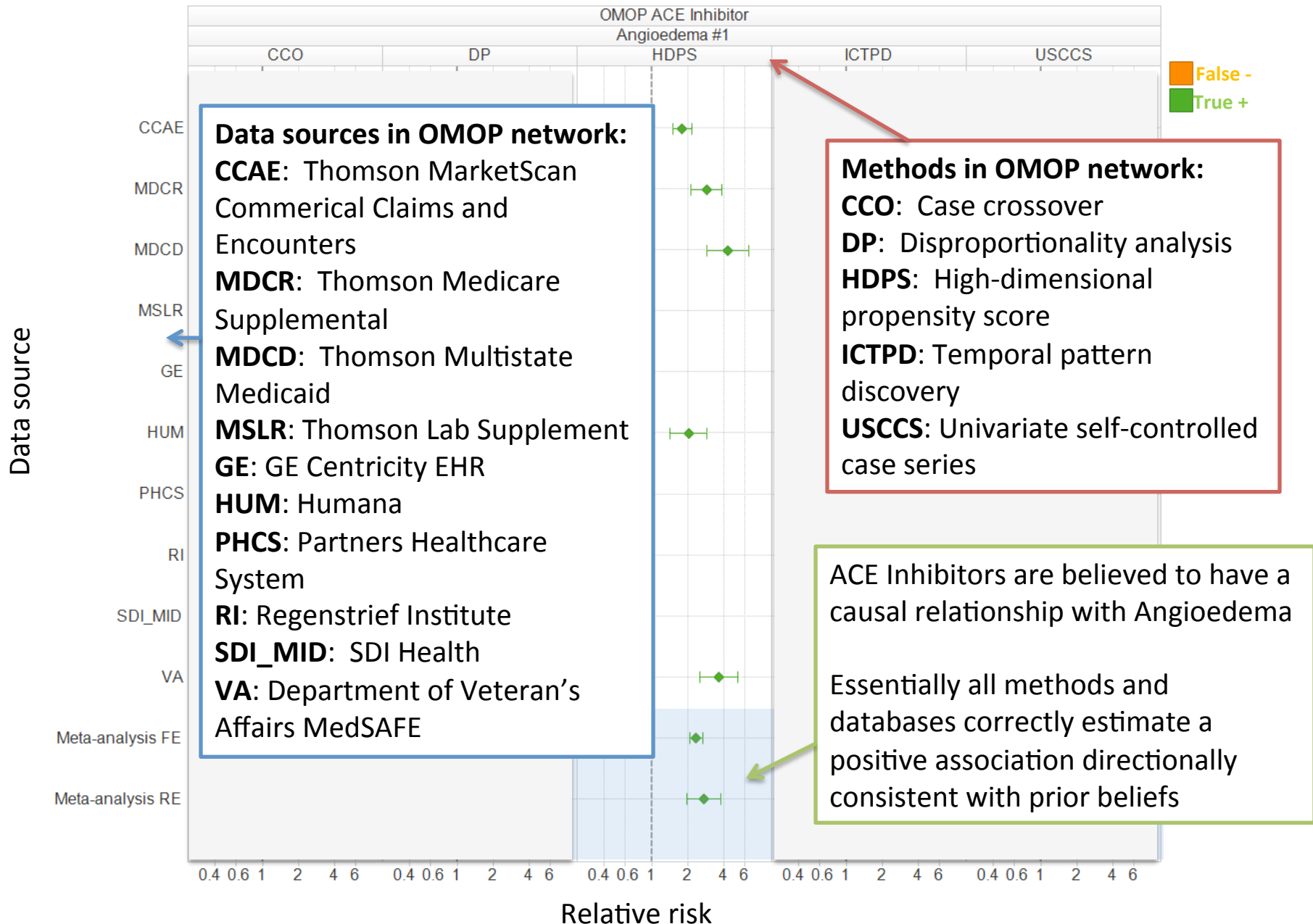
OBSERVATIONAL  
MEDICAL  
OUTCOMES  
PARTNERSHIP



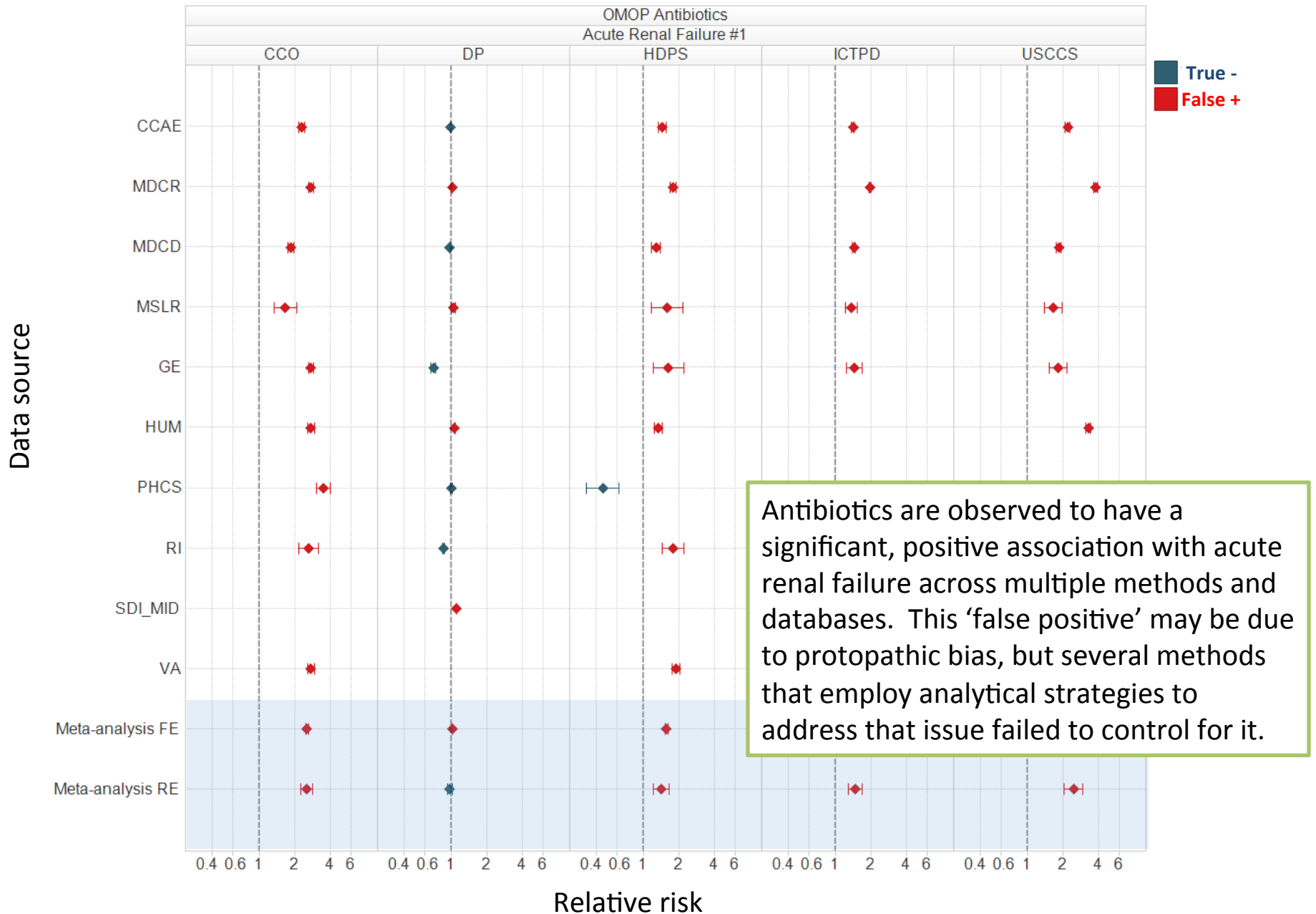
## Typical scenario: Estimate the effect of one drug on one outcome using one method against one database



# Systematic sensitivity analysis: Estimate the effect using multiple methods across the network of databases



## Consistent 'false positive' observed for 'negative control' of Antibiotics and Acute Renal Failure



# Measuring method performance

Drug-condition association status

Y – ‘true association’,

N – ‘negative control’

		Y	N
Method prediction: Drug-condition pair met a specific threshold	Y	<b>True positives</b>	<b>False positives</b>
	N	<b>False negatives</b>	<b>True negatives</b>

Question: For any method applied to any data source, what are the expected operating characteristics?

# Measuring method performance example: Random-effect meta-analysis of estimates from High-dimensional propensity score

Drug-condition association status  
Y – ‘true association’,  
N – ‘negative control’

Method prediction:  
Drug-condition pair met a specific threshold:  
(LB 95% CI > 1)

		Drug-condition association status	
		Y	N
Method prediction: Drug-condition pair met a specific threshold: (LB 95% CI > 1)	Y	True positives: 5	False positives: 8
	N	False negatives: 4	True negatives: 36

Positive predictive value  
= precision  
=  $TP / (TP+FP)$   
=  $5 / (5+8) = 0.38$

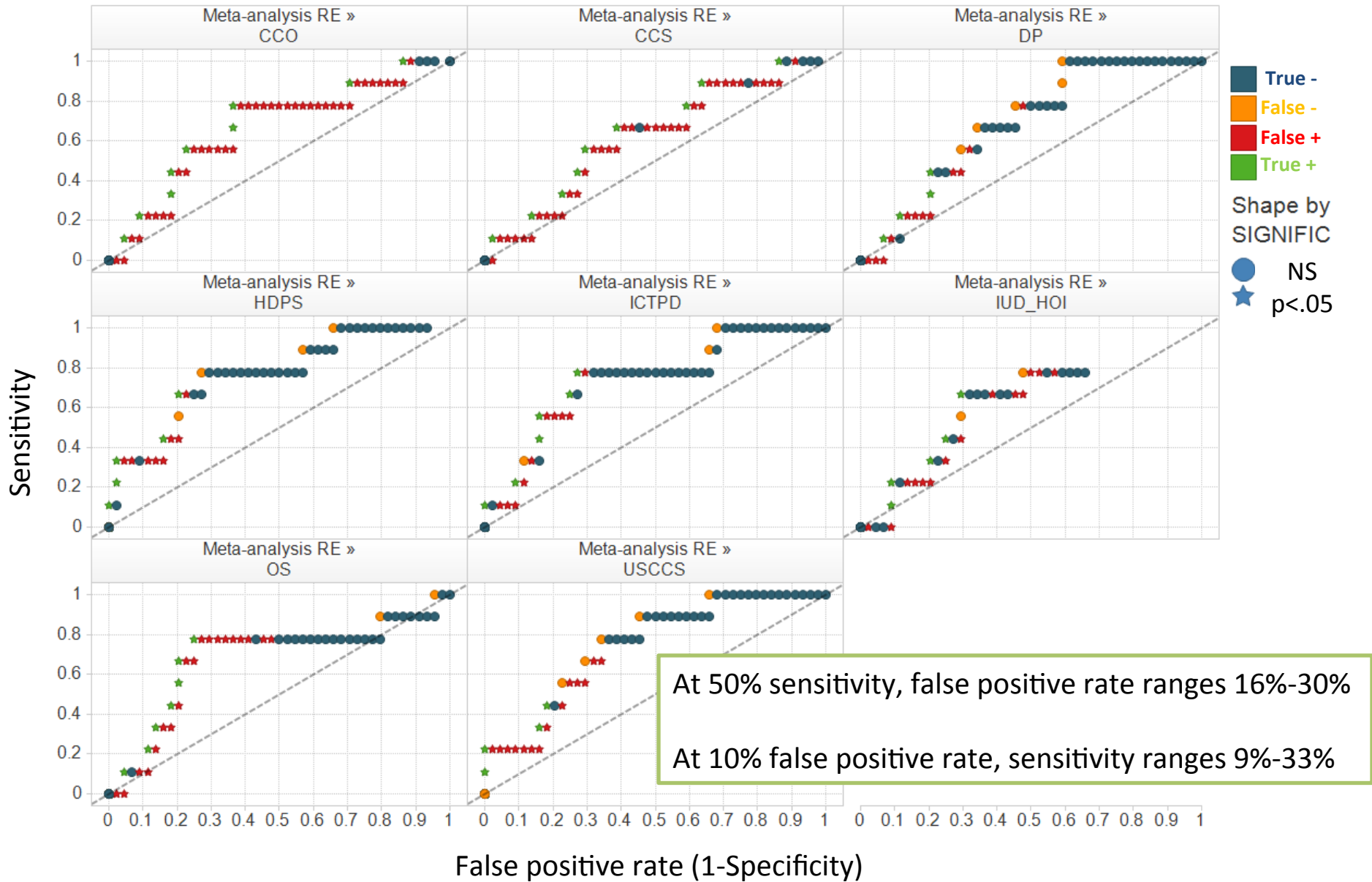
Negative predictive value  
=  $TN / (FN+TN)$   
=  $36 / (4+36) = 0.90$

Sensitivity  
= Recall  
=  $TP / (TP+FN)$   
=  $5 / (5+4) = 0.56$

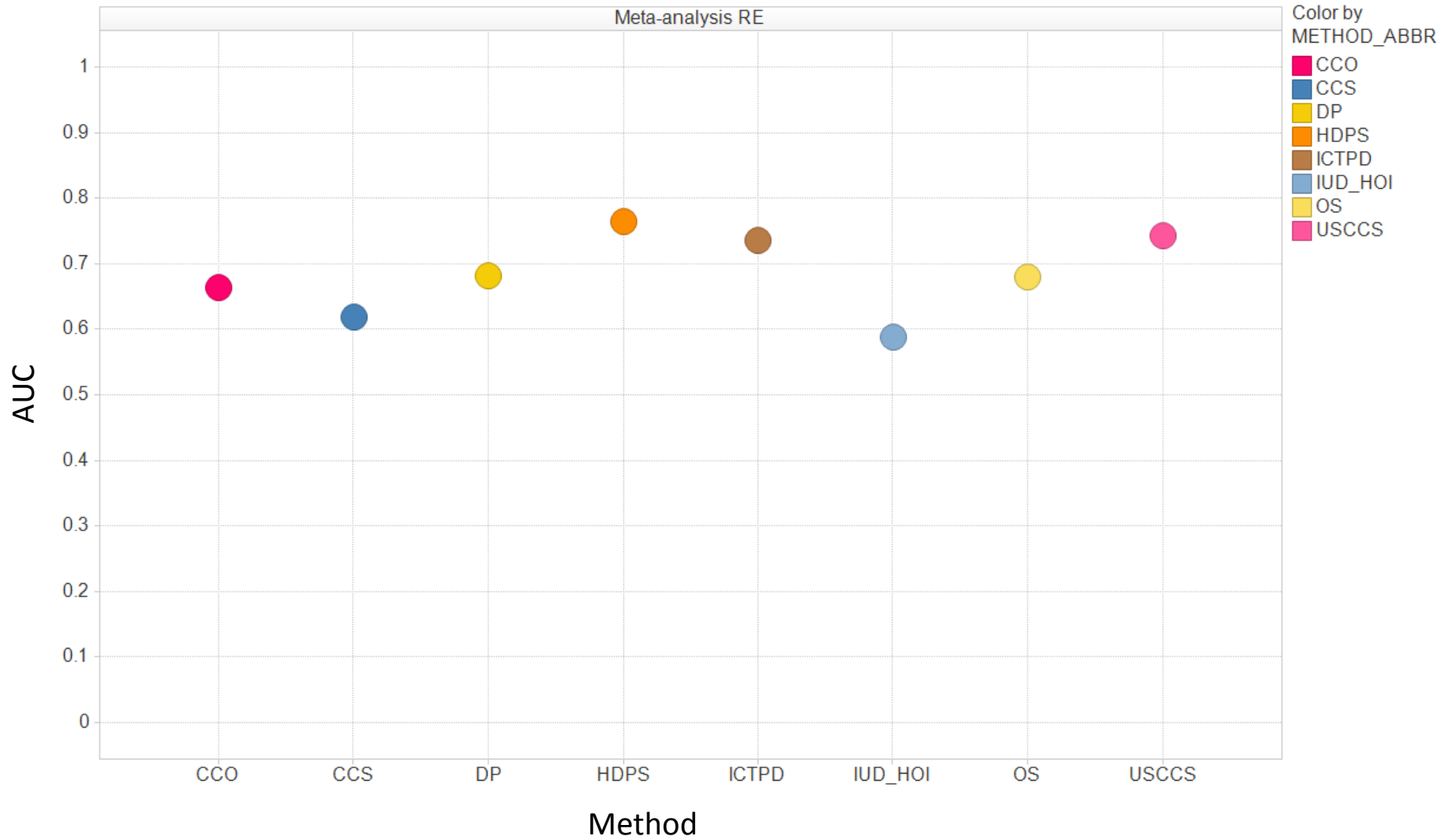
Specificity  
=  $TN / (FP+TN)$   
=  $36 / (8+36) = 0.82$   
False positive rate  
=  $1 - 0.82 = 0.18$

Accuracy  
=  $(TP+TN) / (TP+TN+FP+FN)$   
=  $(5+36) / (9+44) = 0.77$

# ROC curves of random-effects meta-analysis estimations for all methods



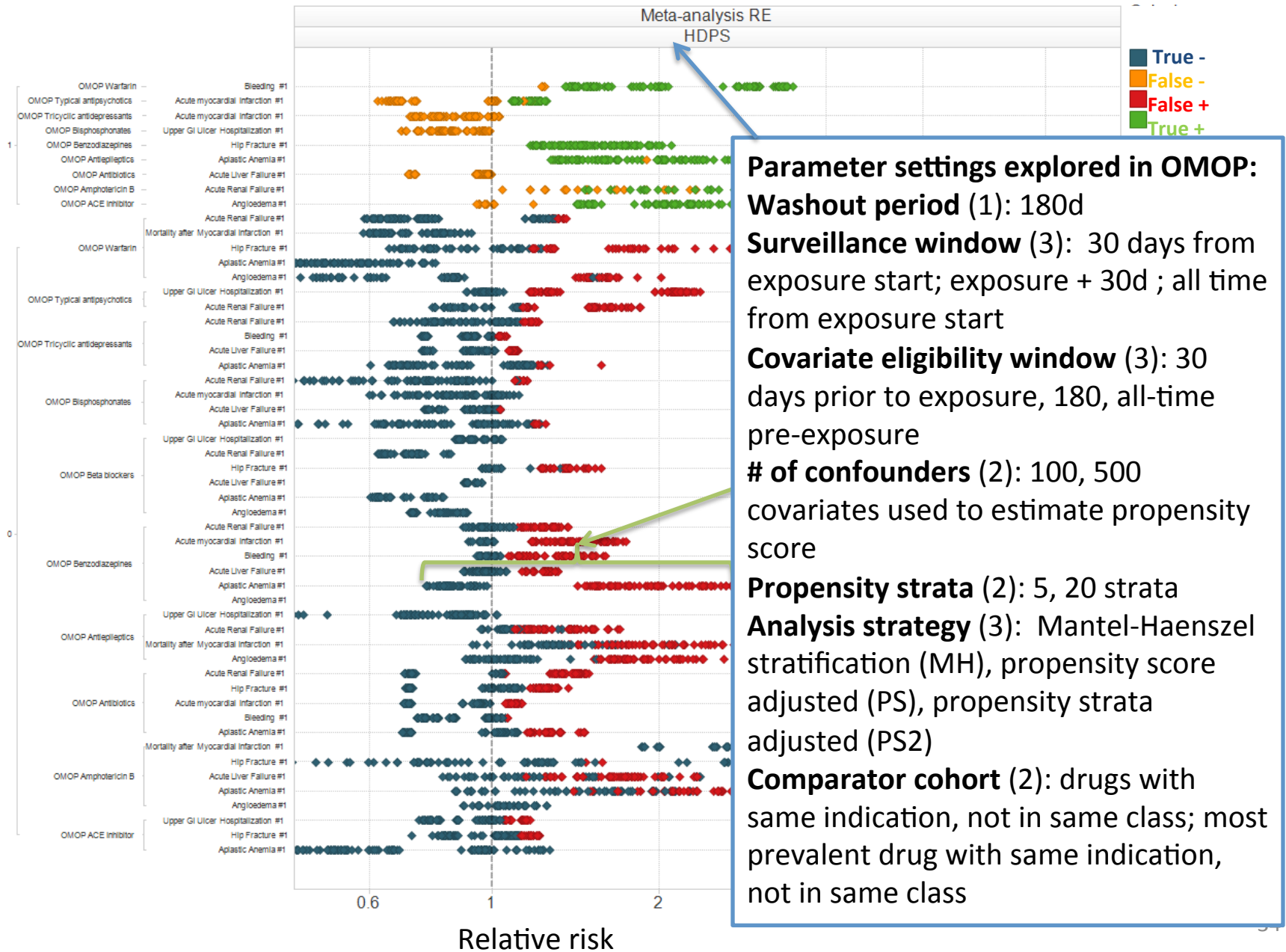
# AUC performance by method



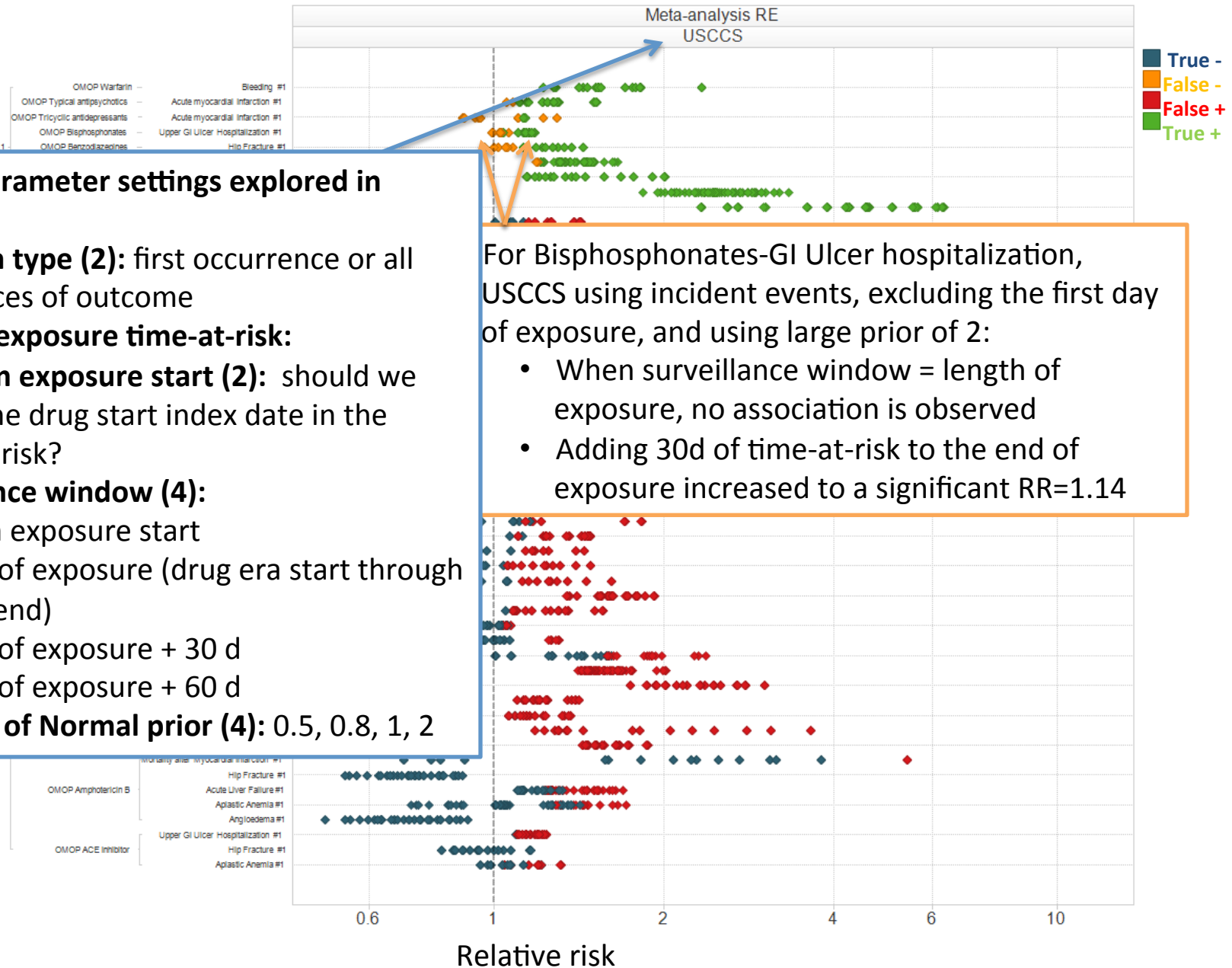


Heterogeneity

# Range of estimates across high-dimensional propensity score inception cohort (HDPS) parameter settings

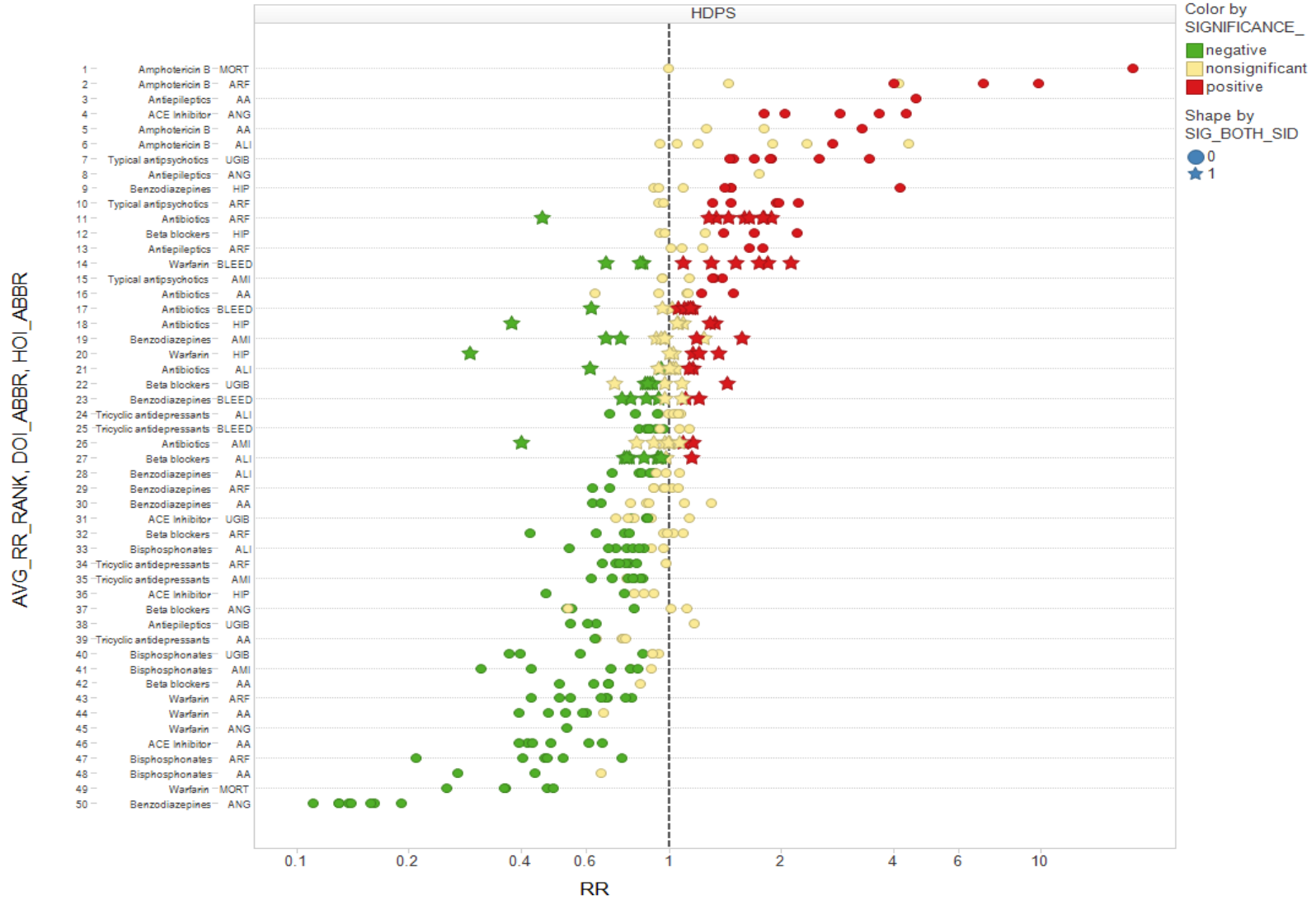


# Range of estimates across univariate self-controlled case series (USCCS) parameter settings



Fix everything *except* the database...

# Cohort

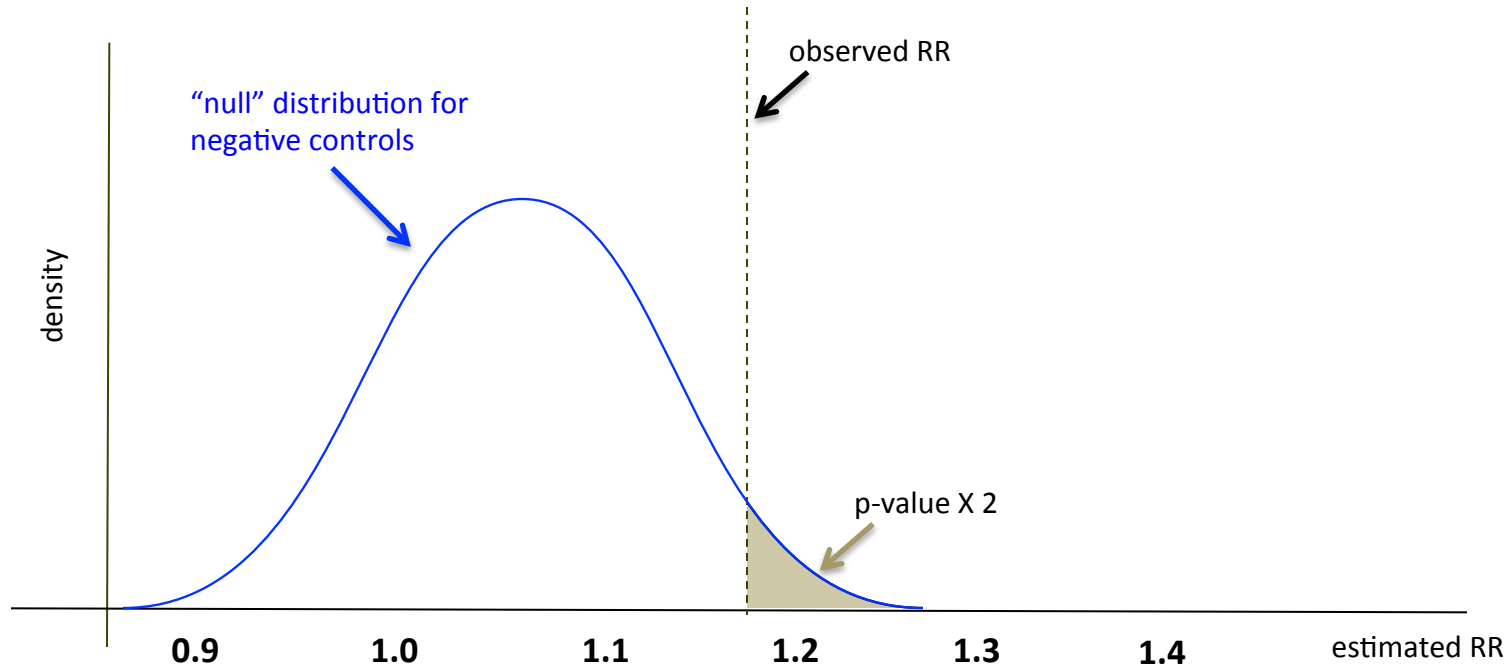


# SCCS



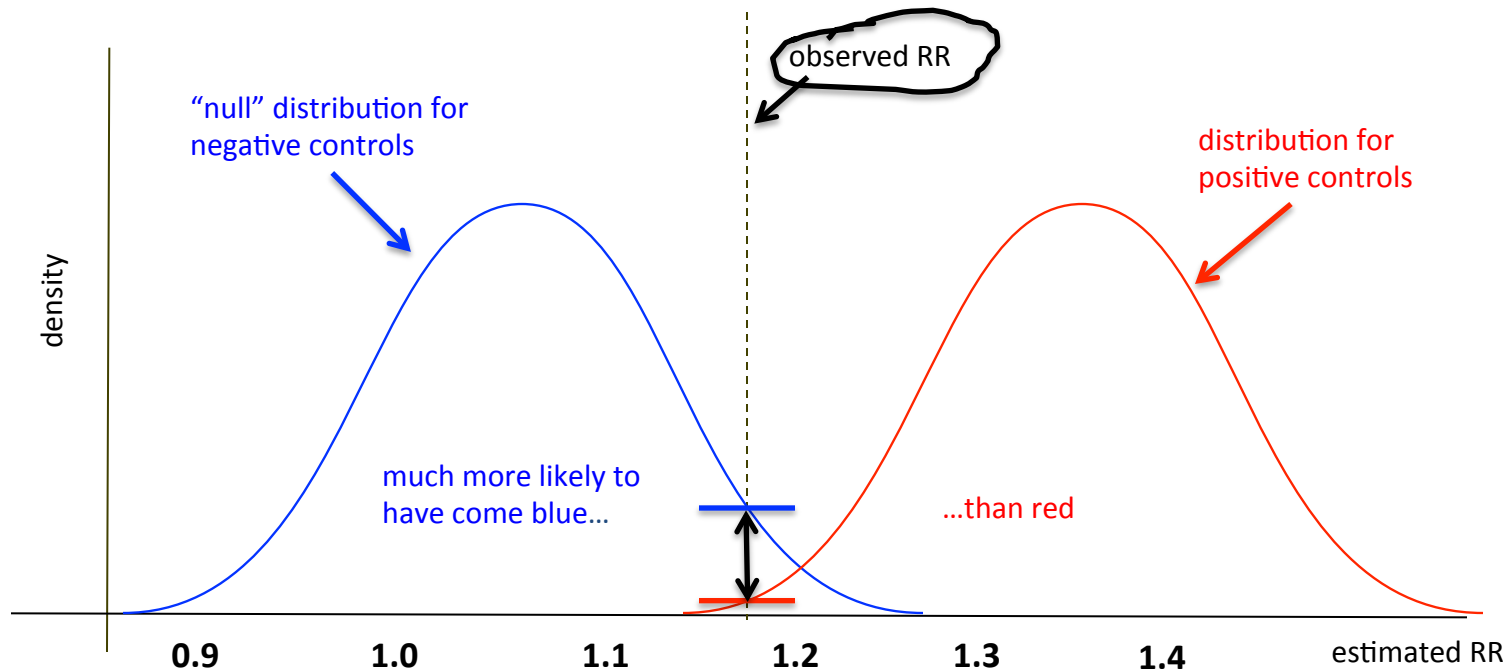
# Interpreting Biased Estimates

# p-values are tail probabilities



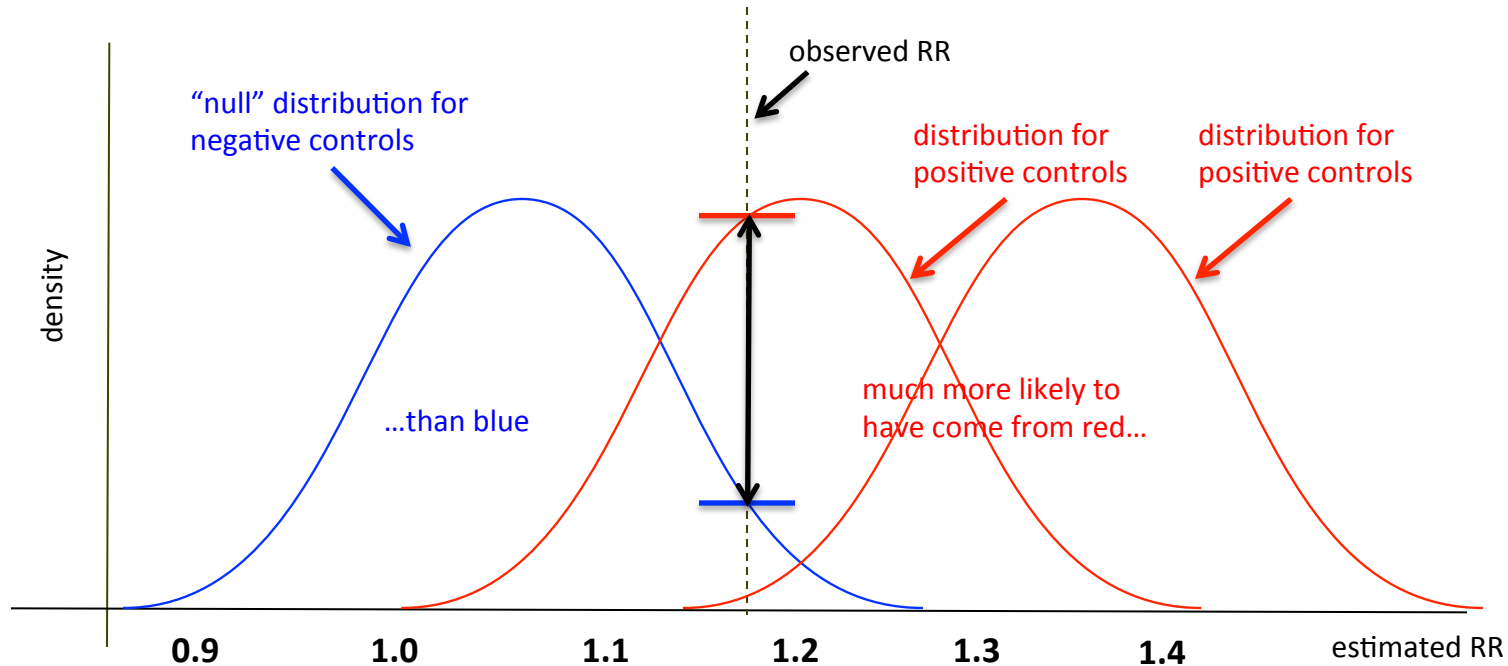


# We also have positive controls



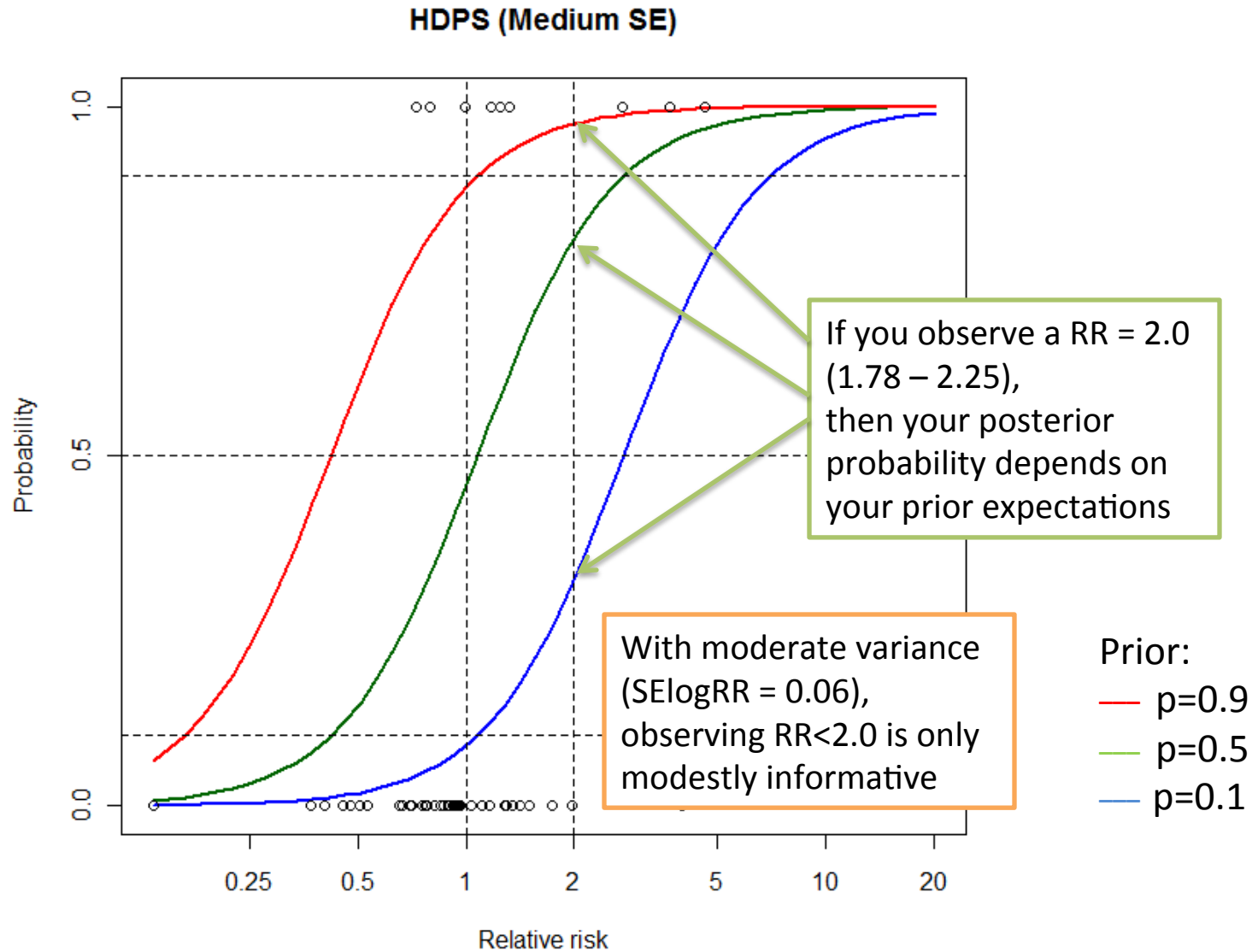
- moderate p-value, small  $\Pr(\text{positive control})$

# But if AUC is small...

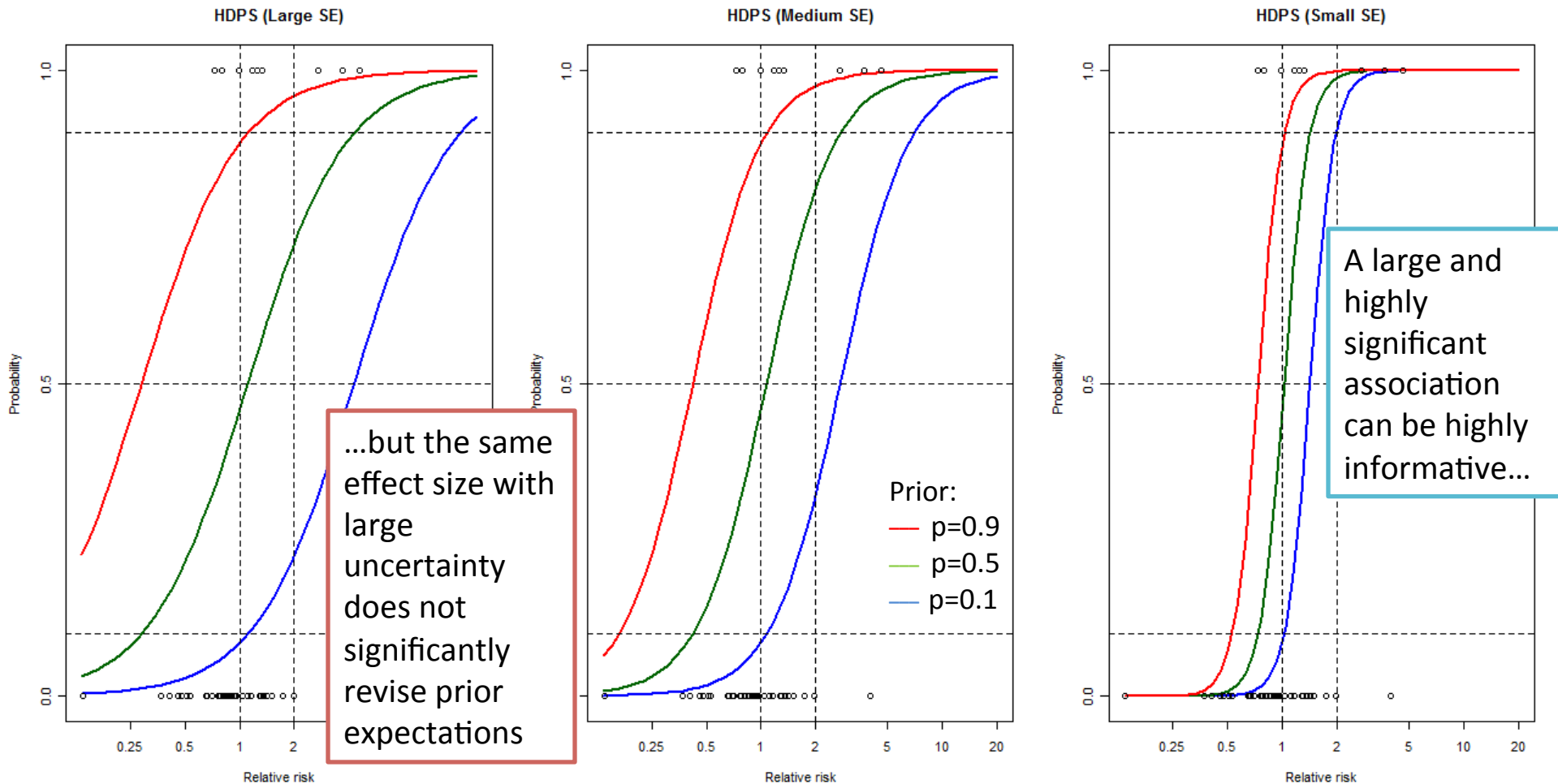


- despite the moderate p-value,  $\Pr(\text{positive control})$  is large!
- the null distribution doesn't tell the whole story

# Revising prior expectations in light of new evidence



# Revising prior expectations in light of new evidence from an active surveillance system: Impact of precision of observed estimates



Scenarios: You observe RR=2.0 with confidence intervals based on standard error (SE):  
 Large SE: (1.01 – 3.97)                      Medium SE: (1.78 – 2.25)                      Small SE: (1.96 – 2.04)

# Exploring clopidogrel and upper

**BJCP** British Journal of Clinical  
Pharmacology

DOI:10.1111/j.1365-2125.2008.03154.x

## Gastro-intestinal haemorrhage risks of selective antagonists look

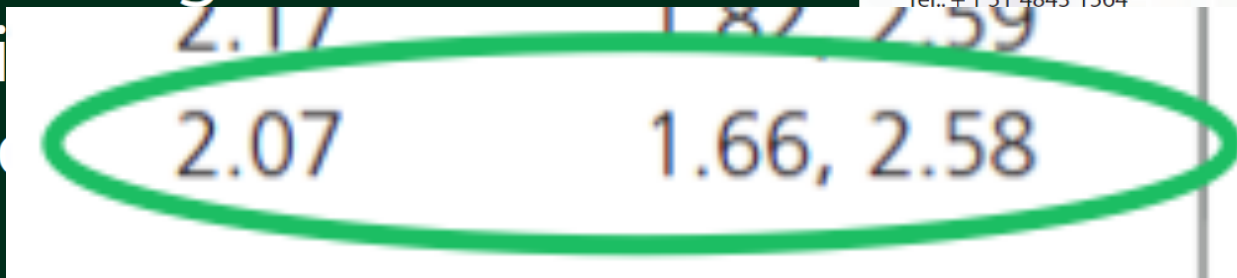
Lucie Opatrny,<sup>1,2</sup> J. A. 'Chris' Delaney<sup>1,3</sup> & Samy Suissa<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Division of Clinical Epidemiology, <sup>2</sup>Division of Internal Medicine, McGill University Health Center and

<sup>3</sup>Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health, McGill University, Montreal, Canada

### Correspondence

Dr Samy Suissa PhD, Division of Clinical  
Epidemiology, Royal Victoria Hospital, 687  
Pine Avenue West, Ross 4.29, Montreal,  
Quebec, Canada, H3A 1A1.  
Tel.: +1 51 4843 1564



### Received

21 July 2007

### Accepted

24 January 2008

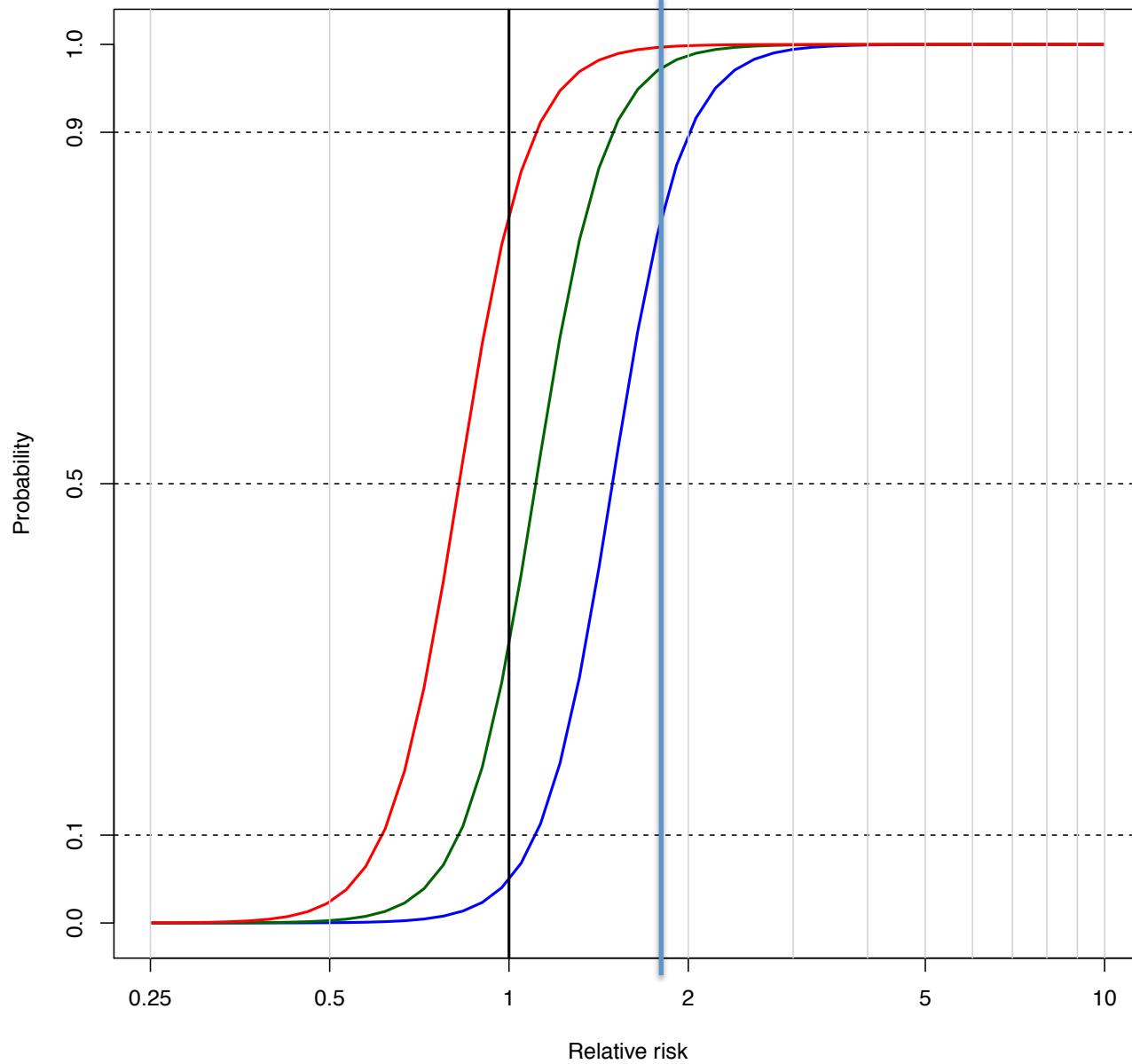
### Published OnlineEarly

6 May 2008

Br J Clin Pharmacol / **66:1** / 76–81

# Clopidogrel – GI Bleed

Method: CC-2000314, Source: CCAE, HOI: GI Bleed



RR:1.86  
(1.79, 1.93)  
SE: 0.02

Prior:

- p=0.9
- p=0.5
- p=0.1

$\theta_1 = 0.00$   
 $\theta_2 = 0.14$

# Exploring isoniazid and acute liver

CMAJ

RESEARCH

## Adverse events associated with treatment of latent tuberculosis in the general population

Benjamin M. Smith MD, Kevin Schwartzman MD MPH, Gillian Bartlett PhD, Dick Menzies MD MSc

### ABSTRACT

**Background:** Guidelines recommend treatment of latent tuberculosis in patients at increased risk for active tuberculosis. Studies investigating the association of therapy with adverse events have not included the untreated population nor accounted for comorbidities or occurrence of similar event in the untreated general population. Our objective was to estimate the risk of adverse events requiring hospital admission that were associated with therapy for latent tuberculosis infection in the general population.

**Methods:** Using administrative health data from the province of Quebec, we created a historical cohort of all residents dispensed therapy for latent tuberculosis between 1998 and 2003. Each patient was matched on age, sex and postal region with two untreated residents. The observation period was 18 months (from 6 months before to 12 months after initiation of therapy). The primary outcome was hospital admission for therapy-associated adverse events.

**Results:** During the period of observation, therapy for latent tuberculosis was dispensed to 9145 residents, of whom 95% started isoni-

6.4 (2.2–18.3)

... years, the odds of hospital admission for a hepatic event among patients treated for latent tuberculosis infection was significantly greater than among matched untreated people after adjustment for comorbidities (odds ratio [OR] 6.4, 95% CI 2.2–18.3). Excluding patients with comorbid illness, there were two excess admissions to hospital for hepatic events per 100 patients initiating therapy compared with the rate among untreated people over 65 years (95% CI 0.1–3.87).

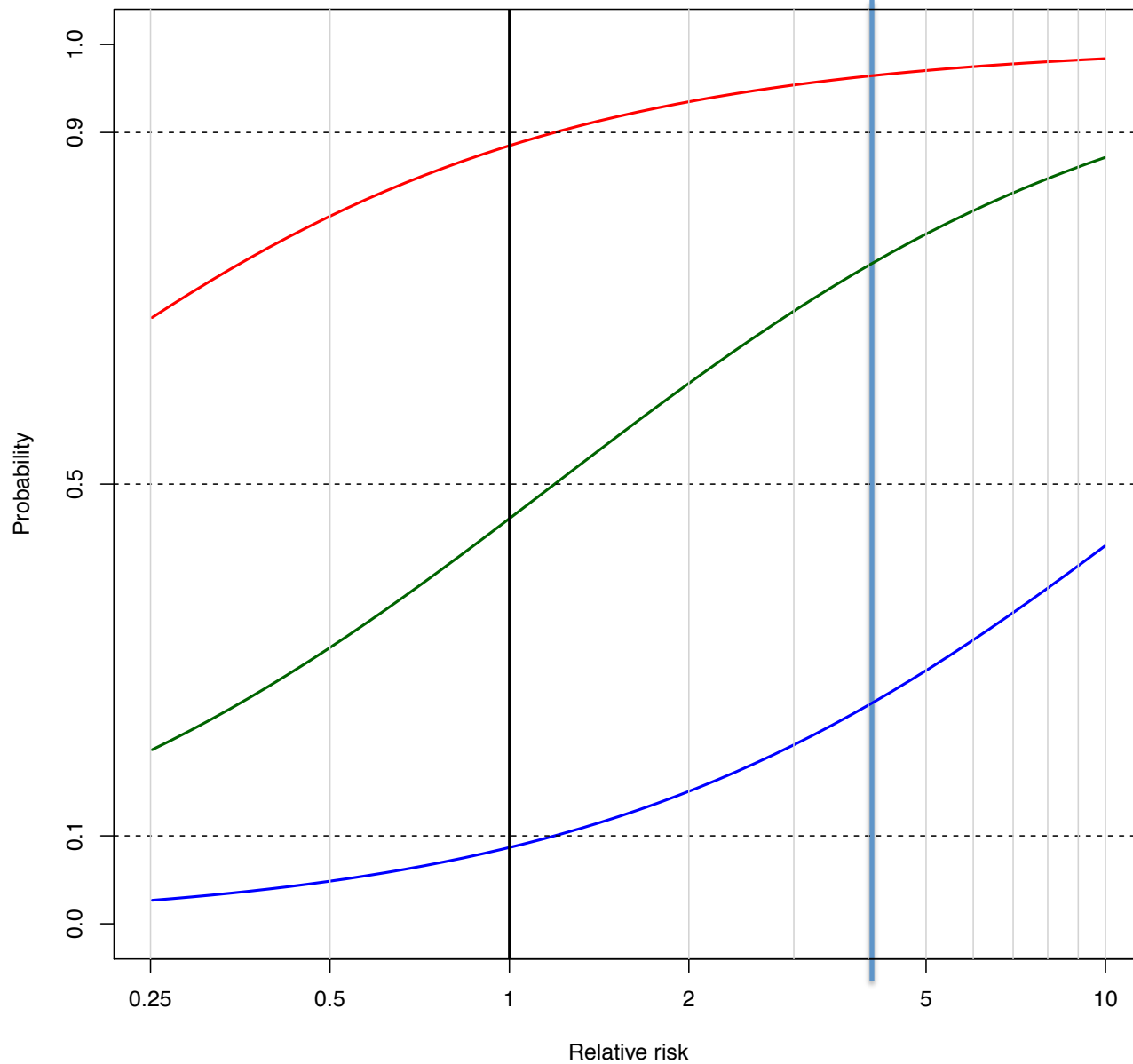
**Interpretation:** The risk of adverse events requiring hospital admission increased significantly among patients over 65 years receiving treatment for latent tuberculosis infection. The decision to treat latent tuberculosis infection in elderly patients should be made after careful consideration of risks and benefits.

/cmaaj.091824

CMAJ, February 22, 2011, 183(3)

# Isoniazid - Acute Liver Injury

Method: CM-21000211, Source: MDCR, HOI: Acute Liver Injury



RR:4.03  
(2.69, 6.03)  
SE: 0.21

Prior:

- p=0.9
- p=0.5
- p=0.1

$\beta_1 = 0.79$   
 $\beta_2 = 0.02$



# Exploring ibuprofen and acute kidney



## Nonsteroidal Antiinflammatory Drugs and Acute Renal Failure in Elderly Persons

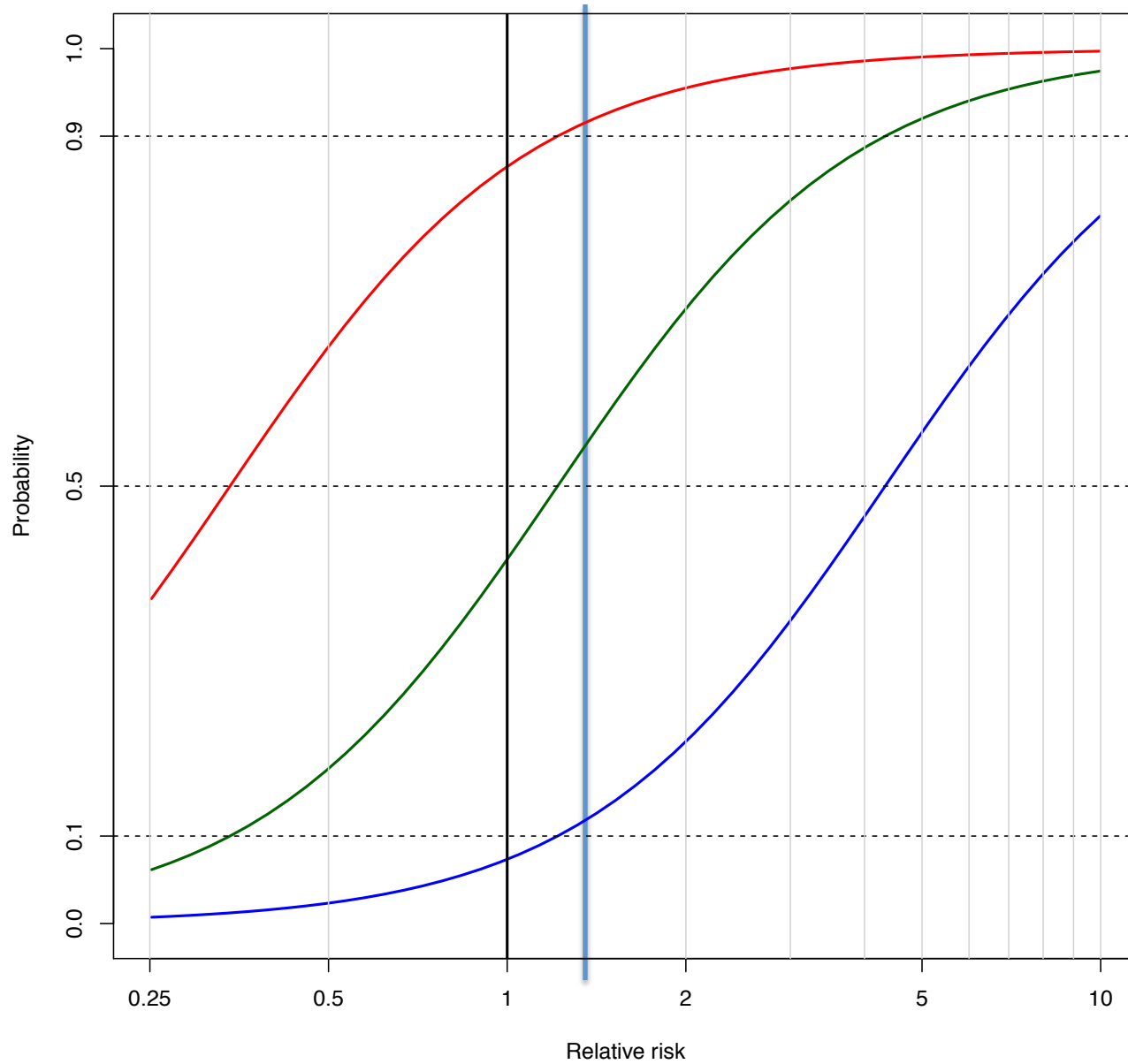
ols	OR	interval
Marie R. Griffin	1.63	1.23, 2.08
Re...	1.03	0.68, 1.56

On of renal function due to this effect, the authors performed a nested case-control study using Tennessee Medicaid enrollees aged  $\geq 65$  years in 1987–1991. Cases were patients who had been hospitalized with community-acquired acute renal failure; they were selected on the basis of medical record review of Medicaid enrollees with selected discharge diagnoses. Information on the timing, duration, and dose of prescription NSAIDs used, demographic factors, and comorbidity was gathered from computerized Medicaid-Medicare data files. Of the 1,799 patients with acute renal failure (4.51 hospitalizations per 1,000 person-years), 18.1% were current users of prescription NSAIDs as compared with 11.3% of 9,899 randomly selected population controls. After control for demographic factors and comorbidity, use of NSAIDs increased the risk of acute renal failure 58% (adjusted odds ratio = 1.58; 95% confidence interval (CI): 1.34, 1.86). For ibuprofen, which accounted for 35% of NSAID use, odds ratios associated with dosages of  $\leq 1,200$  mg/day,  $>1,200$ – $<2,400$  mg/day, and  $\geq 2,400$  mg/day were 0.94 (95% CI: 0.58, 1.51), 1.89 (95% CI: 1.34, 2.67), and 2.32 (95% CI: 1.45, 3.71), respectively (test for linear trend:  $p = 0.009$ ). Prescription NSAID use resulted in an estimated 25 excess hospitalizations associated with renal failure per 10,000 years of use. Thus, NSAIDs represent a relatively uncommon but avoidable cause of acute renal failure in frail elderly persons. *Am J Epidemiol* 2000;151:488–96.

*Am J Epidemiol* 2000;151:488–96.

# Ibuprofen – Acute Kidney Injury

Method: CC-2000241, Source: MDCD, HOI: Acute Kidney Injury



RR:1.26  
(1.16, 1.36)  
SE: 0.04

Prior:

- p=0.9
- p=0.5
- p=0.1

$\beta_1 = 0.00$   
 $\beta_2 = 0.07$

# Exploring indomethacin and acute myocardial infarction

## Current Use of Nonsteroidal Antiinflammatory Drugs and the Risk of Acute Myocardial Infarction

Lorenz M. Fischer, M.Sc., Raymond G. Schlienger, Ph.D., M.P.H.,  
Christian M. Matter, M.D., Hershel Jick, M.D., and Christoph R. Meier, Ph.D., M.Sc.

Study Ob	0.96 (0.66–1.38)	n during
current	1.36 (0.82–2.25)	l.
Design. I		
Setting. (	0.95 (0.55–1.69)	

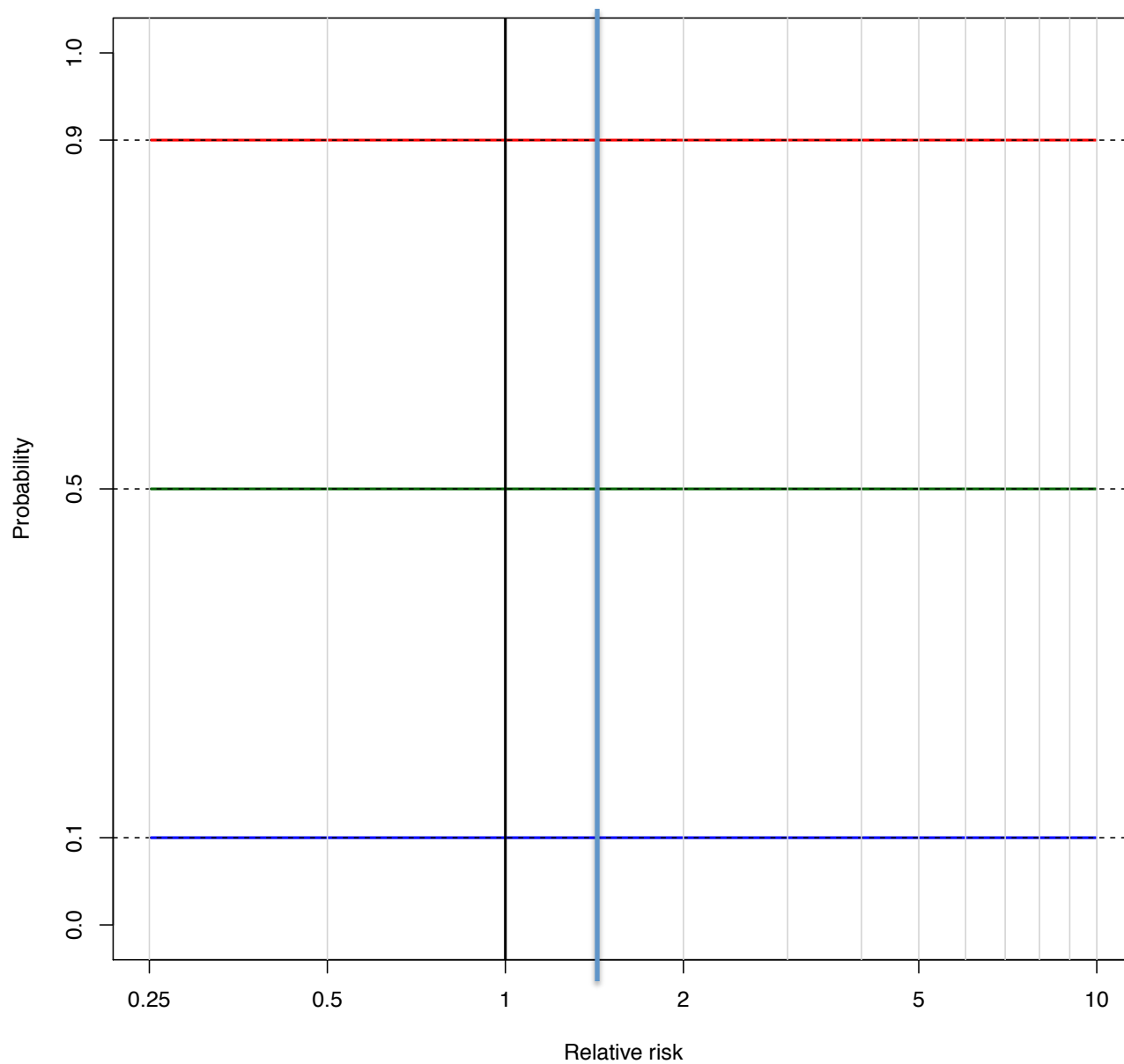
**Subjects.** A total of 8688 case patients, aged 89 years or younger, with a first-time acute myocardial infarction and 33,923 control subjects matched on age, sex, calendar time, and general practice attended.

**Intervention.** The United Kingdom General Practice Research Database was searched for potential cases of first-time acute myocardial infarction between January 1995 and April 2001. Control subjects without acute myocardial infarction were identified at random.

(Pharmacotherapy 2005;25(4):503–510)

# Indomethacin – Acute Myocardial Infarction

Method: CC-2000241, Source: GE, HOI: Acute Myocardial Infarction



RR:1.44  
(1.20, 1.72)  
SE: 0.09

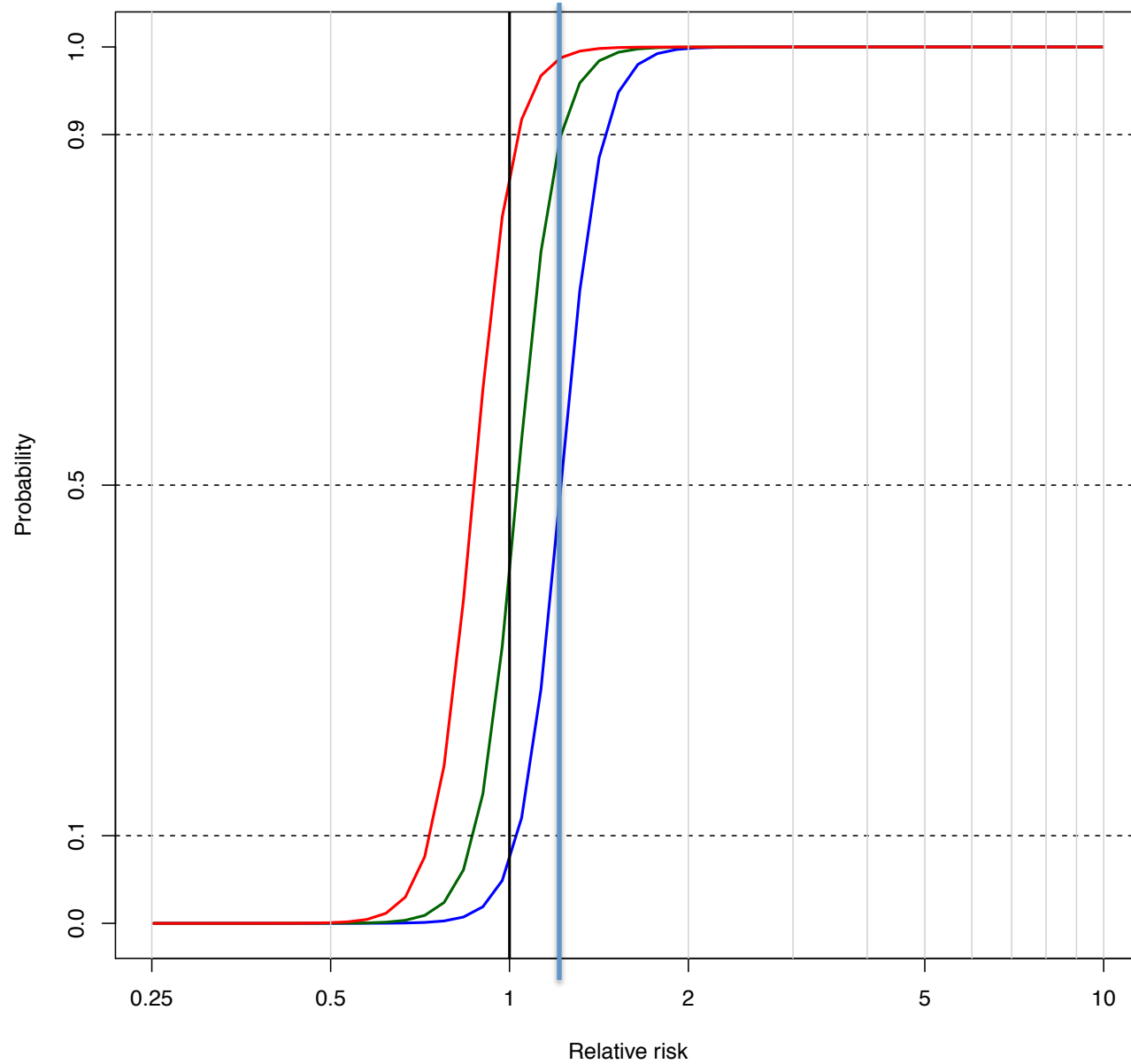
Prior:

- p=0.9
- p=0.5
- p=0.1

$\beta_1 = 0.00$   
 $\beta_2 = 0.00$

# Indomethacin – Acute Myocardial Infarction

Method: SCCS-1953010, Source: GE, HOI: Acute Myocardial Infarction

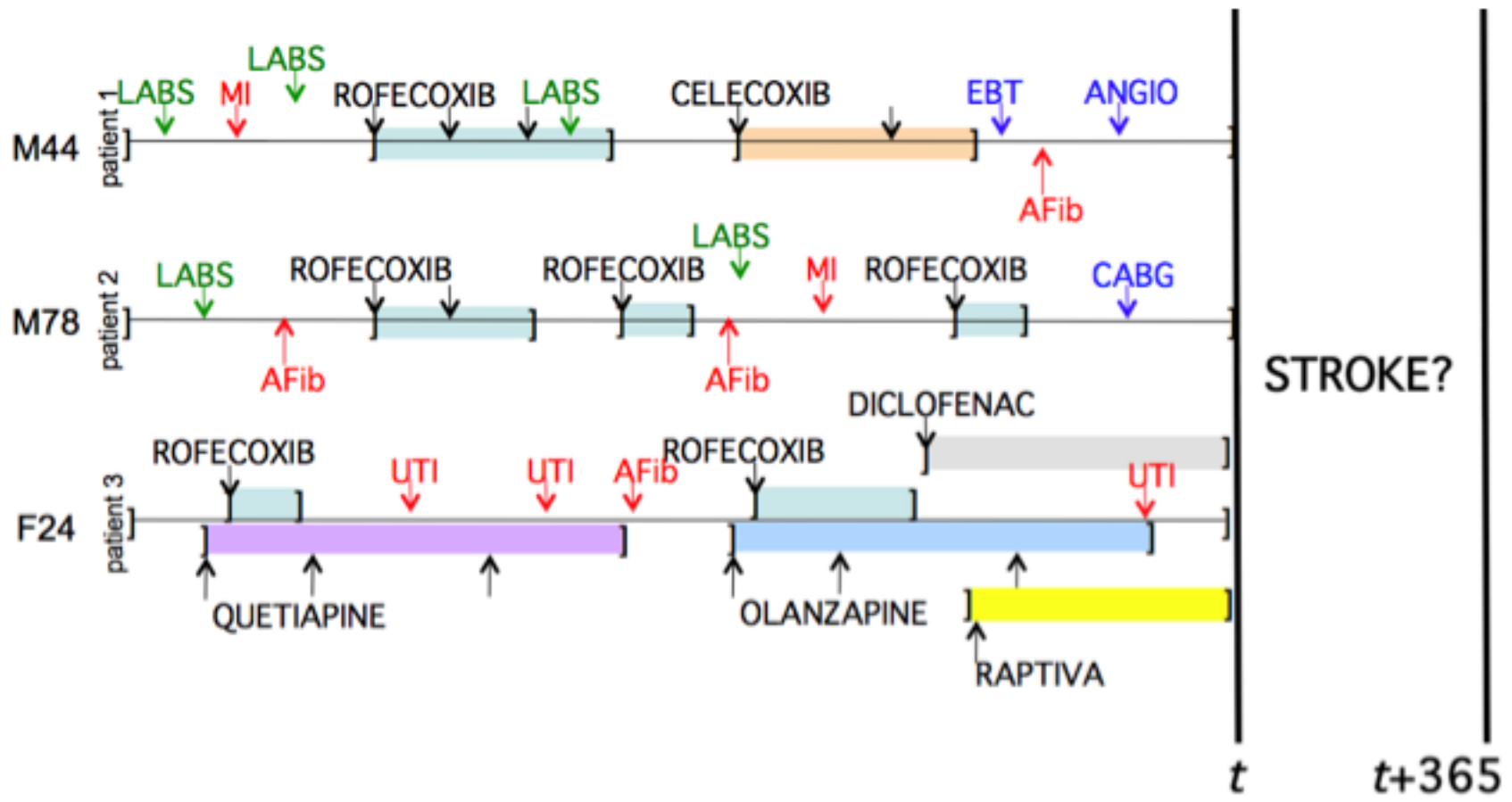


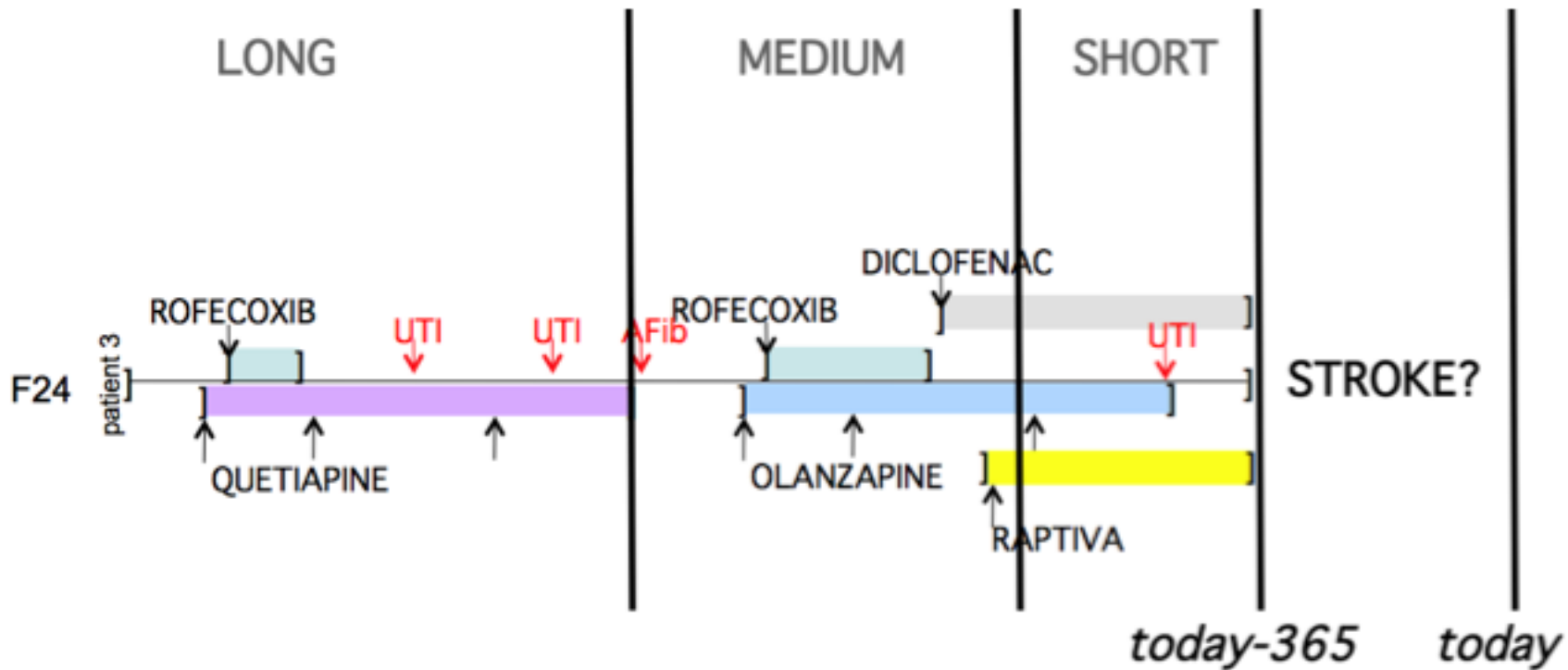
RR:1.16  
(1.06, 1.72)  
SE: 0.05

Prior:  
— p=0.9  
— p=0.5  
— p=0.1

$\beta_1 = 4.97$   
 $\beta_2 = 0.37$

# Predictive Modeling







# Discussion

- Current approaches to reporting observational studies are broken
- Big data can transform medicine but we have to stop kidding ourselves about
  - the role of “clinical” judgment in a data-rich world, and
  - the reliability of observational studies

# Three Pieces of the Solution

## 1. Sensitivity Analysis

Greenland S. Multiple-bias modelling for analysis of observational data. Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series a-Statistics in Society 2005;168:267-291.

## 2. Establish Operating Characteristics

- How well do observational studies work?
- How big is the bias in practice?
- How often do 95% intervals contain the true RR?
- What does this mean?  $1.67$  (95% CI, 1.33-2.09).

# Three Pieces of the Solution

3. Prediction of Future Observables

4. Avoid reliance on human art

## Collaborators

- Patrick Ryan, J&J
- Martijn Schuemie, Erasmus University
- Marc Suchard, UCLA
- Bill DuMouchel, Oracle
- Marc Overhage, Siemens
- Paul Stang, J&J
- Ivan Zorych, Columbia
- Tyler McCormick, U. Washington
- Cynthia Rudin, MIT
- Ben Latham, MIT

Let's not do this!

