

Evaluation of healthcare apps: a UK view on challenges and alternatives

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Why are apps important ?

Why is app evaluation hard ?

[What to test and how ? - 11am panel session, Sal AB]

A few options for app regulation and quality improvement

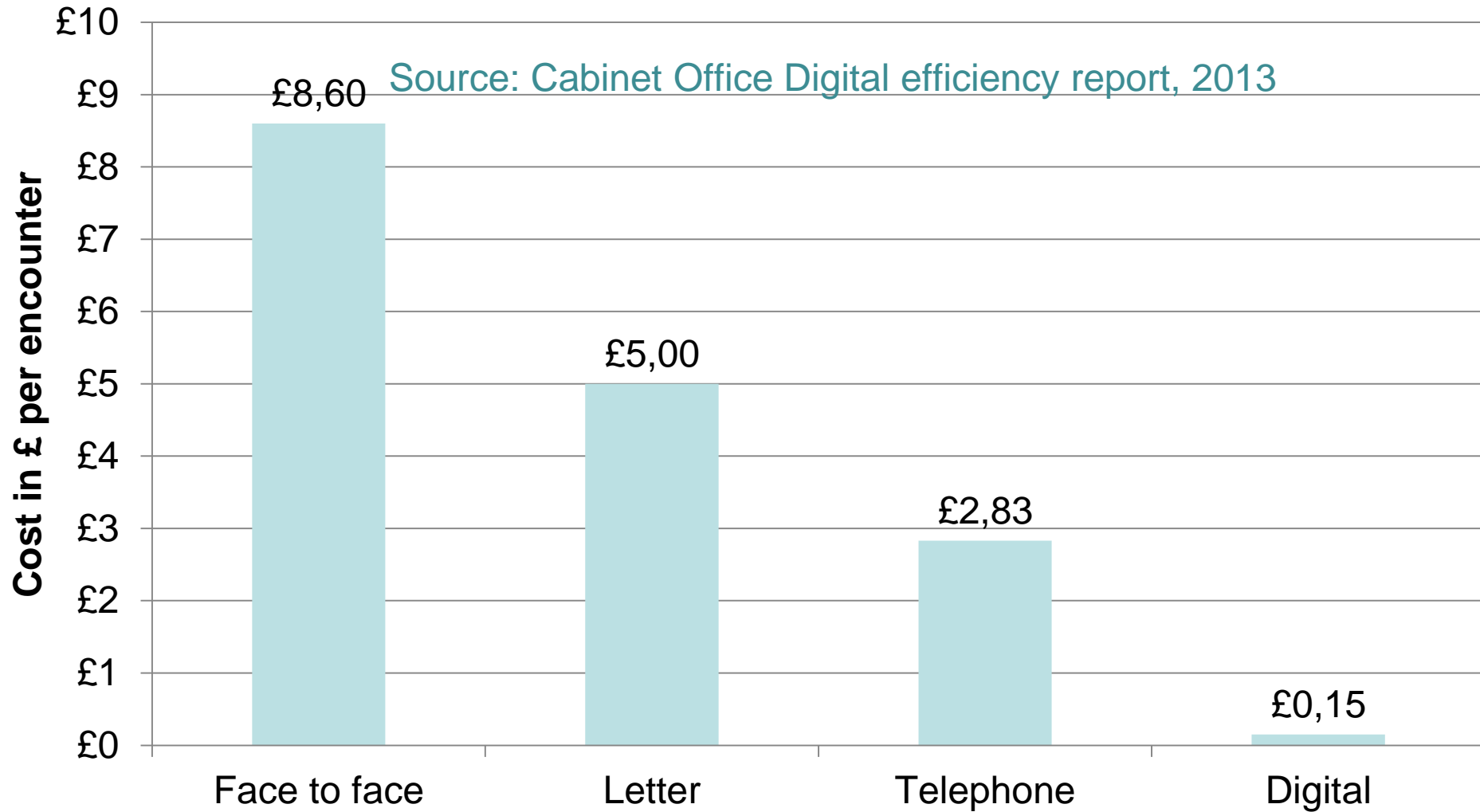
How these work out in practice

What NICE and the NHS are doing

Conclusion: we need various approaches to add new survival pressures to the app ecosystem

Why use digital channels ?

Mean UK public sector cost per completed encounter across 120 UK councils



Why should apps work ?

1. Face-to-face contacts with health professionals do not scale, but software does
2. Smart phones are used by 75%+ of UK adults:
 - Cheap, convenient, fashionable, trusted by users
 - Inbuilt sensors +/- wearables allow easy measurements
 - Multiple communication channels: SMS, voice, video, apps, VR...
3. mHealth apps enable:
 - Unobtrusive alerts to take actions, record data eg. PROMs
 - Delivery of Susan Michie's 94 behaviour change techniques
 - Tailoring, which makes behaviour change more effective (d=0.16, Lustria, J H Comm 2013)

The risk of “We know it works”

Motorbike paramedics
must be effective:

- Get to accident faster than ambulance
- Paramedic is trained to resuscitate
- Carry relevant equipment



What could go wrong ?

*“Full advanced life-support did not decrease mortality or morbidity... **mortality was greater** among patients with Glasgow Coma Scale scores above 9” Stiel IG. CMAJ. 2008*

Some plausible eHealth technologies that failed so far

Diagnostic decision support (Wyatt RCT, MedInfo '89)

Integrated medicines management for a children's hospital (Koppel, JAMA 2005)

MSN Messenger patient triage (Eminovic, JTT 2006)

Smart home applications for fall detection etc.:

- *“The effects of [these] technologies is not known. Better quality research is needed.”* (Martin, Cochrane Review 2008)
- *“The technology readiness level for smart homes & home health monitoring technology is still low. There is no evidence that [these] technologies address disability prediction, health-related quality of life or fall prevention.”* (Liu L et al. [Int J Med Inform.](#) 2016)

Bad quality apps

Melanoma de

Opiate drug c

Cardiac risk c

<https://www.y>

Smoking ces

Asthma, diab

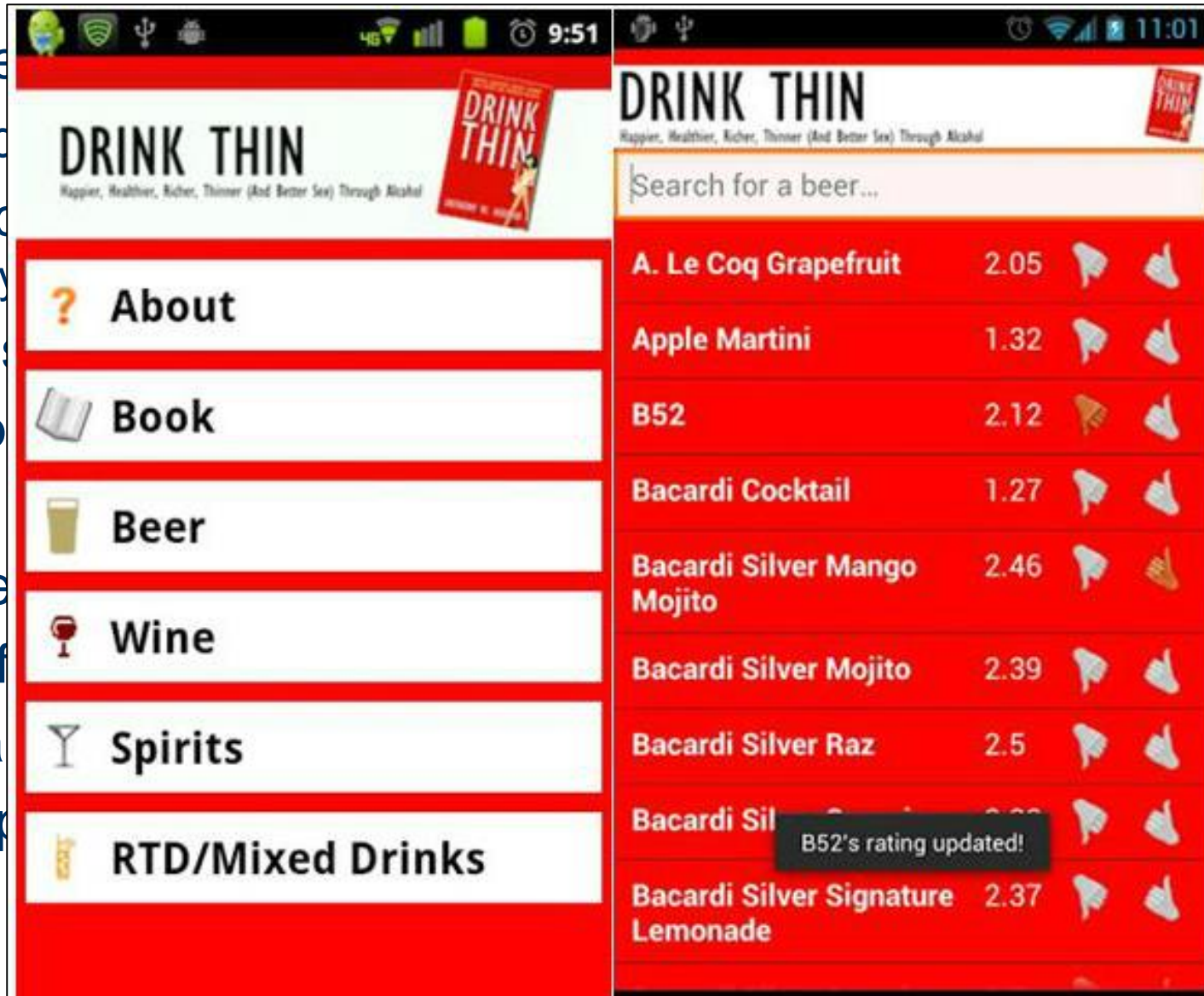
Fake iPhone

Acne treatme

Harvesting of

Heart rate ca

Drink thin app



Why ineffective health apps matter

Can cause harm directly: unsafe apps, inaccurate online diagnostic triage...

Or indirectly (“opportunity cost”): ineffective health promotion app delays person from using effective app, going to GP or dietician

Can waste health system resources: money, professional time, facilities

Risk making users, professionals and policy makers cynical about digital health: a “great revulsion” (Muir Gray)

Why poor app quality is tolerated

App developers & stores

Low barrier to market entry

Frequent app updates increase market share

Culture of minimum viable product

Data harvesting pays for many apps

Poor awareness of quality & safety issues

Poor awareness of devices regulations

Tsunami of new apps & updates

Poor app quality is tolerated

Many apps are of poor quality

Poor clinical engagement

App users & professional bodies

Limited clinical engagement

Few quality criteria

People trust apps

“Apptimism” of users

Reported incidents rare

Lack of empirical testing

“Enforcement discretion”

Risk of inhibiting innovation

Scarce resources

Regulators

Some challenges of app evaluation

Tsunami of new apps: 1000 new apps on iPhone platform *per day* – c. 5-7% health related (<https://www.statista.com>)

Rapid update cycle – often weekly (partly to retain place in app store top 50)

About 1/3 of asthma apps disappear each year (Huckvale 2014)

Zero barriers to market entry (eg. MIT app inventor toolkit) so huge variation in app quality

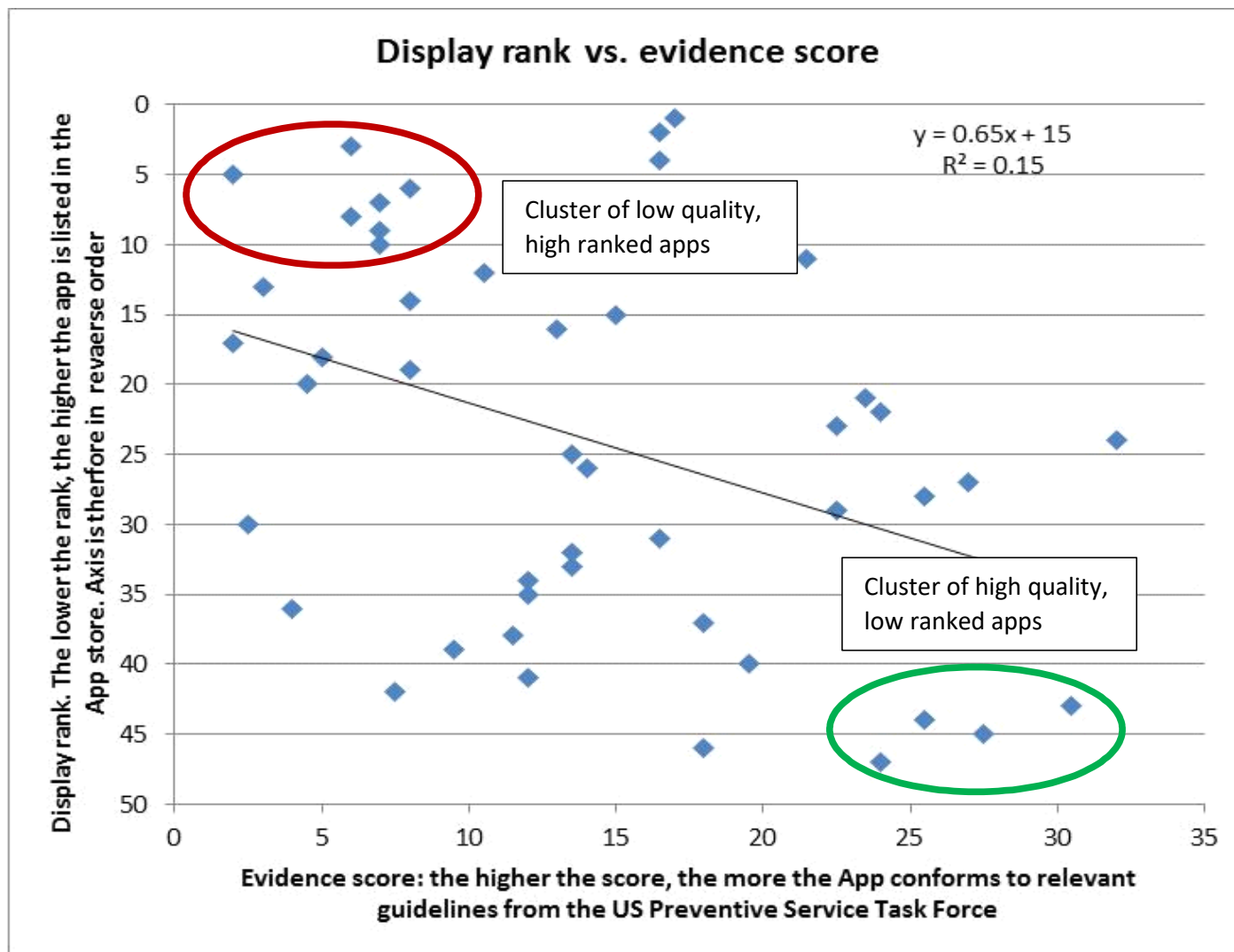
Huge variety of users (public, patients, professionals) & use cases - from lifestyle improvement to controlling a surgical tele-manipulator or insulin pump...

So, we need a quality approval process !

Possible quality approval processes for apps

Methods	Advantages	Disadvantages	Examples
Wisdom of the crowd	Simple user ranking	Hard for users to assess quality; click factory bias	App stores MyHealthApps
Users apply quality criteria	Explicit	Requires dissemination; will all users apply criteria ?	RCP checklist
Classic peer reviewed article	Rigorous (?)	Slow, resource intensive, doesn't fit App model	470 PubMed articles
Physician peer review	Timely, Dynamic	Not as rigorous Scalable ?	iMedicalApps, MedicalAppJournal
Developer self-certification & labelling	Dynamic	Requires developers to understand & comply; checklist must fit apps	HON Code RCP checklist NHS App store
Developer support	Resource light	Technical knowledge needed Multitude of developers	BSI PAS 277
CE marking , external regulation	Credible	Slow, expensive, apps don't fit national model	FDA, MHRA
Curated store	Credible	Resource intensive	NHS App Store

User ratings: app display rank versus app adherence to evidence



Re-analysis
of data on 47
smoking
cessation
apps from
Abroms
2013 (Wyatt,
BMC Med
2018 – in
press)

RCP quality criteria for physician apps, based on Donabedian 1966

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Structure = the app development team, the

evidence base, the clinical need, the
change in practice, the impact on patients

Processes

Outcome

efficacy, user

What makes a good clinical app? Introducing the RCP Health Informatics Unit checklist

Authors: Jeremy C Wyatt,^A Harold Thimbleby,^B Paul Rastall,^C Jan Hoogewerf,^D Darren Wooldridge^E and John Williams^F

Doctors increasingly rely on medical apps running on smart phones or tablet computers to support their work. However, these apps vary hugely in the quality of their data input screens, internal data processing, the methods used to handle sensitive patient data and how they communicate their output to the user. Inspired by Donabedian's approach to assessing quality and the principles of good user interface design, the Royal College of Physicians' Health Informatics Unit has developed and piloted an 18-item checklist to help clinicians assess the structure, functions and impact of medical apps. Use of this checklist should help clinicians to feel more confident about using medical apps themselves, about recommending them to their staff or prescribing them for patients.

Wyatt JC, Thimbleby H, Rastall P, Hoogewerf J, Wooldridge D, Williams J. Clin Med (Lond). 2015 (15):519-21.

First NHS Apps Library: ignored data protection

Huckvale et al 2015 “man in the middle” study of 79 accredited lifestyle apps from the NHS Apps library:

- Only 53 (67%) had a privacy policy: policies vague, did not explain types of data being shared
- No app encrypted data held on device
- 70 (89%) of apps leaked confidential data over network
- 35 included identifiers, 23 sent IDs without encryption
- 4 (5%) apps sent **both** IDs and health information without encryption

New NHS Apps Library, 2017 on <https://apps.beta.nhs.uk/>

48 million visits a month; about 120 apps so far

Three labelled

1. **NHS App** effectiveness “supportive
2. **Being tested** safety, usable for evidence
3. **No badge:** usability and NHS for clin

NHS Apps Library

Find digital tools to help you manage and improve your health

Filter apps by category

- [Cancer](#)
- [Dementia](#)
- [Dental](#)
- [Diabetes](#)
- [First aid](#)
- [GP appointments](#)
- [Health records](#)
- [Healthy living](#)
- [Learning disabilities](#)
- [Mental health](#)
- [Online community](#)
- [Pharmacy](#)
- [Pregnancy and baby](#)
- [Respiratory](#)
- [Sleep](#)
- [Uncategorised](#)



[Active 10 walking tracker](#)

The Active 10 app will help you get into the habit of walking briskly for ...

Free

Healthy living



[Baby and Child First Aid](#)

The British Red Cross Baby and Child First Aid app provides simple, easy-to-learn skills to ...

[How we assess apps](#)

Our assessment makes sure only safe and secure apps are published in our library.

[App providers](#)

Find out how you can get your app published in our library.

[Healthcare professionals](#)

Why you can confidently recommend these apps.

NHS Apps Library 3 stage approval process (35 page form)

1. Submit: if app aligns with NHS priorities ie. maternity, social care, long term conditions, cancer, mental health (2 pages of questions)
2. Pre-assess: fits clinical expectations of NHS apps, has CE mark if medical device (4 pages)
3. Assessment: if it adheres to core obligations: effectiveness (3), clinical safety (standard DCB0129, - 1 page), **data protection (20)**, cyber security (OWASP standard - 2), usability & accessibility (2), interoperability (1), technical stability (1)

<https://developer.nhs.uk/digital-tools/daq/>

NICE app assessment process

Use Medtech Innovation Briefing approach,
<https://www.nice.org.uk/about/what-we-do/our-programmes/nice-advice/medtech-innovation-briefings>

Not guidance for NHS – review of evidence, including:

- Evidence on effectiveness
- Costs and resource use
- Usage and user experience
- Specialist commentator comments
- Patient organisation comments

Only 5 apps reviewed 2015-17: Sleepio, GDm-health, ChatHealth, AliveCor, Mersey Burns – no resources for more

New NICE / NHS eHealth “Evidence for Effectiveness” programme

Developing guidance & standards to streamline support for NHS digital adoption

Led by NHS England with NICE, Public Health England, MedCity, DigitalHealth.London,

Builds on previous NICE Health App Briefings to develop functional taxonomy of apps; requires higher level evidence for higher risk apps

In HTA tradition, but aims to be rapid and embrace tools like real world evidence

Probably *cost consequence* economic analysis for apps with significant NHS impact

<http://www.medcityhq.com/evidence-for-effectiveness/>

Does CE marking identify high quality apps ?



Sepsis 6 app:
screenshot shows
data from **two** patients

A different Sepsis 6
app: screenshot
shows *clipped list of
key actions* to
complete – cannot
scroll down

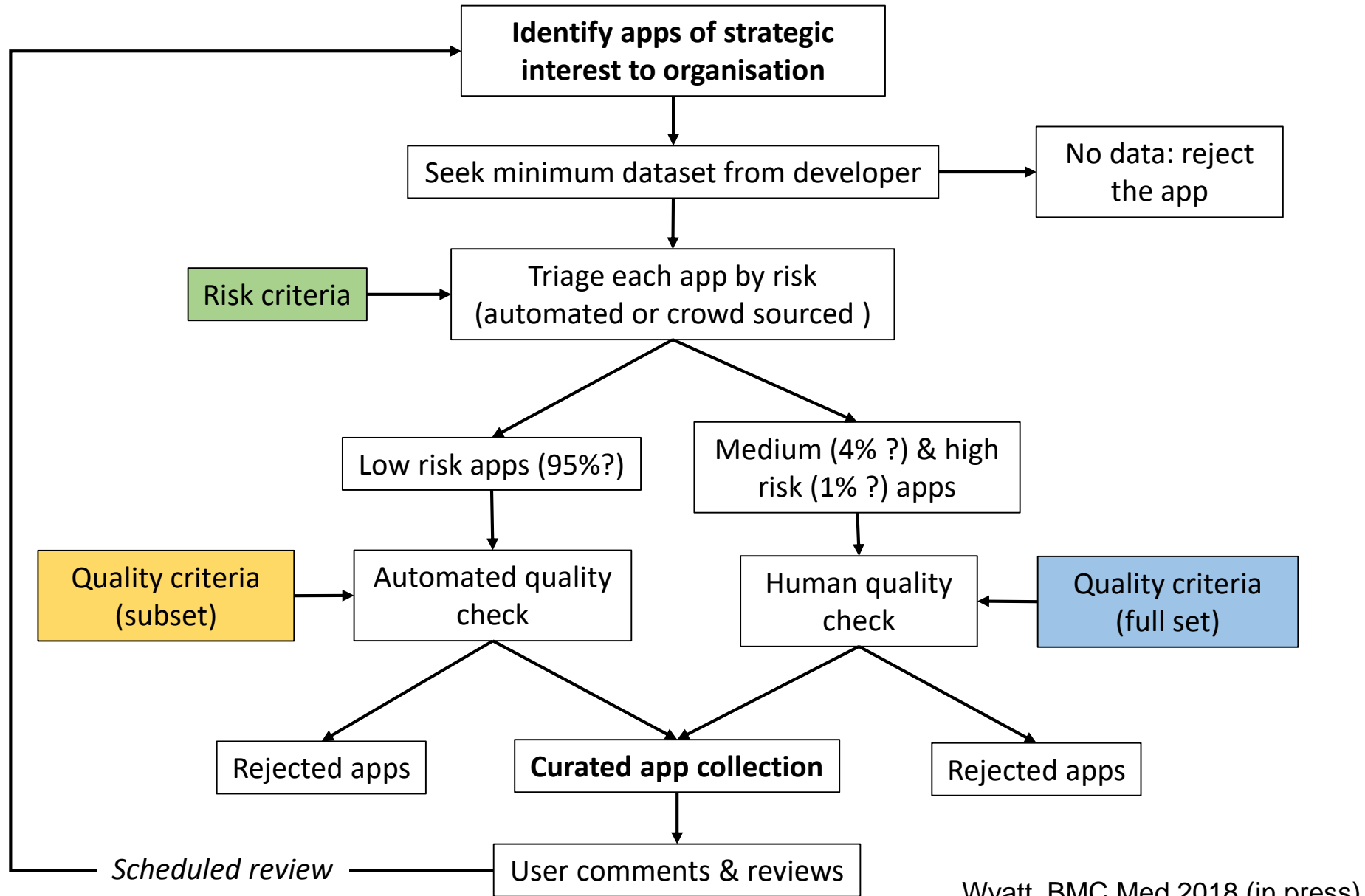
Source: Harold
Thimbleby, Swansea

Some criteria for an app quality approval process

1. Empower patient & professional choice
2. Promote survival of the fittest and a proper market, not just innovation for its own sake
3. Use criteria that make sense to patients, professionals, health systems & industry
4. Scalable to thousands of apps
5. Proportionate to clinical risk
6. Resistant to manipulation, and auditable

Source: JW submission to NICE / PHE, Feb 2016

A process for organisations to develop a risk and quality based curated app store



Some actions physicians themselves can take to improve app quality

1. Report unsafe apps or apps which harvest data to professional / regulatory authorities
2. Use checklist to guide informal study of app before you recommend it to patients or staff
3. Discuss app quality, “apptimism”, methods to report poor quality apps with peer / patient groups
4. Help app developers identify good evidence or algorithms
5. Carry out well-designed evaluations of app accuracy, impact or effectiveness
6. Support professional societies, patient groups, regulators, the media etc. promoting better quality apps

Conclusions

1. Apps **can** bring great benefits to patients and professionals
2. However, their quality varies too much, there are huge numbers and they change all the time
3. They therefore pose a real challenge to evaluators, regulators and health systems
4. Some useful innovations may include:
 - a) Open, agreed, risk-based criteria
 - b) Self-declared label with intended user, purpose, test results + random checks of these
 - c) Research to identify quality predictors (eg. developer)
 - d) Specific curated app stores built using a moderated crowd-sourcing process (patients or professionals)

Maybe we need to think differently

Old think	New Think
Paternalism: we know & determine what is best for users	Self determination: users decide what is best for them
Regulation will eliminate harmful Apps after release	Prevent bad Apps - help App developers understand safety & quality
The NHS must control Apps, apply rules and safety checks	Self regulation by developer community Consumer choice informed by labelling
App developers are in control	Aristotle's <i>civil society</i> * is in control
Quality is best achieved by laws and regulations	Quality is best achieved by consensus and culture change
Apps symbolise innovation (and many harvest data for resale)	App innovation must balance benefits and risks
An Apps market driven by viral campaigns, unfounded claims of benefit	An Apps market driven by <i>fitness for purpose</i> (ISO) & evidence of benefit

**The elements that make up a democratic society, such as freedom of speech, an independent judiciary, collaborating for common wellbeing*

RCP app checklist part 1

App name and version: _____ For iPhone / Android / other: _____

Date of filling out this checklist: _____

1. Who developed the app, and what's inside it?

- a) Is it clear who this app is for and how it should be used? Yes / No / Don't know
- b) Is it clear which problem the app is designed to alleviate or what outcome it helps to promote? Yes / No / Don't know
- c) Do the app developer and sponsor seem well informed about this problem or outcome, and likely to be unbiased in their approach to it? Yes / No / Don't know
- d) Have they located sound, relevant, up-to-date evidence, images, video etc to use in their app? Yes / No / Don't know
- e) Do the app screens look well designed, is text clear? Not applicable / Yes / No / Don't know
- f) Is it clear what data the app needs from the user with units defined, out of range detection and a 'clear last patient' button? Not applicable / Yes / No
- g) Does the app collect any identifiable patient information? Yes / No / Unclear
- h) Does it seem to keep user and patient data secure and private? Yes / No / Don't know
- i) If the app is designed to support any medical task, ^{*} is it CE marked? Not applicable / Yes / No / Unclear

RCP app checklist part 2

2. How well does the app work?

- a) Is the app fast and easy to use in clinical settings? Yes / No / Don't know
- b) Does the app give the user usable answers or advice quickly? Not applicable / Yes / No / Unclear
- c) Do the answers, advice or calculated risks appear to be correct? Yes / No / Unclear
- d) Is there a way to feed back user comments to the app developer? Yes / No / Don't know

3. Is there any evidence that the app does actually alleviate the problem?

- a) Have any studies been carried out to measure the impact of using the app on clinical or patient knowledge, actions or (preferably) patient outcomes? Yes / No / Don't know
- b) Were these studies independently conducted, well designed, large enough, and applicable to the user? Not applicable / Yes / No / Don't know
- c) Did any study also examine health resource use, potential harms caused by the app, or quantify cost effectiveness? Not applicable / Yes / No / Don't know
- d) Overall, do the benefits of using this app seem likely to outweigh inconvenience and costs to the user? Yes / No / Don't know
- e) Is there any specific clinical scenario or patient subgroup in which using the app seems particularly likely to be useful?
Yes - Which? _____ / No / Unclear

What is an “effective” digital health product?

One that:

- Is *designed* to be effective ?
- The developers *believe* / state is effective ?
- That users *like & feel* is effective ?
- That users *state* in a survey is effective ?
- That users *continue to use* ?
- That evidence from studies *demonstrates* is effective ?

Dimensions of effectiveness

Better patient experience / quality of life

Better clinical outcomes eg. fewer complications,
slower disease progression

Lower usage of healthcare resources with same
clinical outcomes

Incremental cost effectiveness £20k per QALY or
less

How to measure if a digital health product is effective ?

Within-person pre-post study: OK if disease stable, outcomes are easily measured & change fast (eg. asthma, diabetes) and no therapy is altered

Compare outcomes in two “similar” groups (control and intervention) - but how to **ensure** similarity:

- users vs. non-users ?
- patients last month vs. pts. this month ?
- alternate patients ?
- randomly allocated patients (Liu & Wyatt, JAMIA 2011)

Factors likely to promote the uptake of digital health

1. High quality products – functionality, flexibility, resilience, interoperability
2. Political will and leadership - funding
3. Incentives for professionals – direct benefits (EM Rogers), reimbursement...
4. Transparent market – certification, labelling
5. NICE or other national guidance based on evidence of effectiveness from studies about which patients & organisations benefit, and when

Big challenge: study validity

- Sufficiently rigorous for the findings to be correct
- Include typical patients, outcomes, version of the product - so results are relevant to others
- Minimise role of the manufacturer / sponsor, to ensure others value & trust study results

Murray E et al. Design & evaluation of digital interventions. Am J Prev Med Nov 2016

Some specific challenges

Who to study:

- Volunteer effect

Measurement problems:

- Social response bias
- Digital health system collecting only outcome data

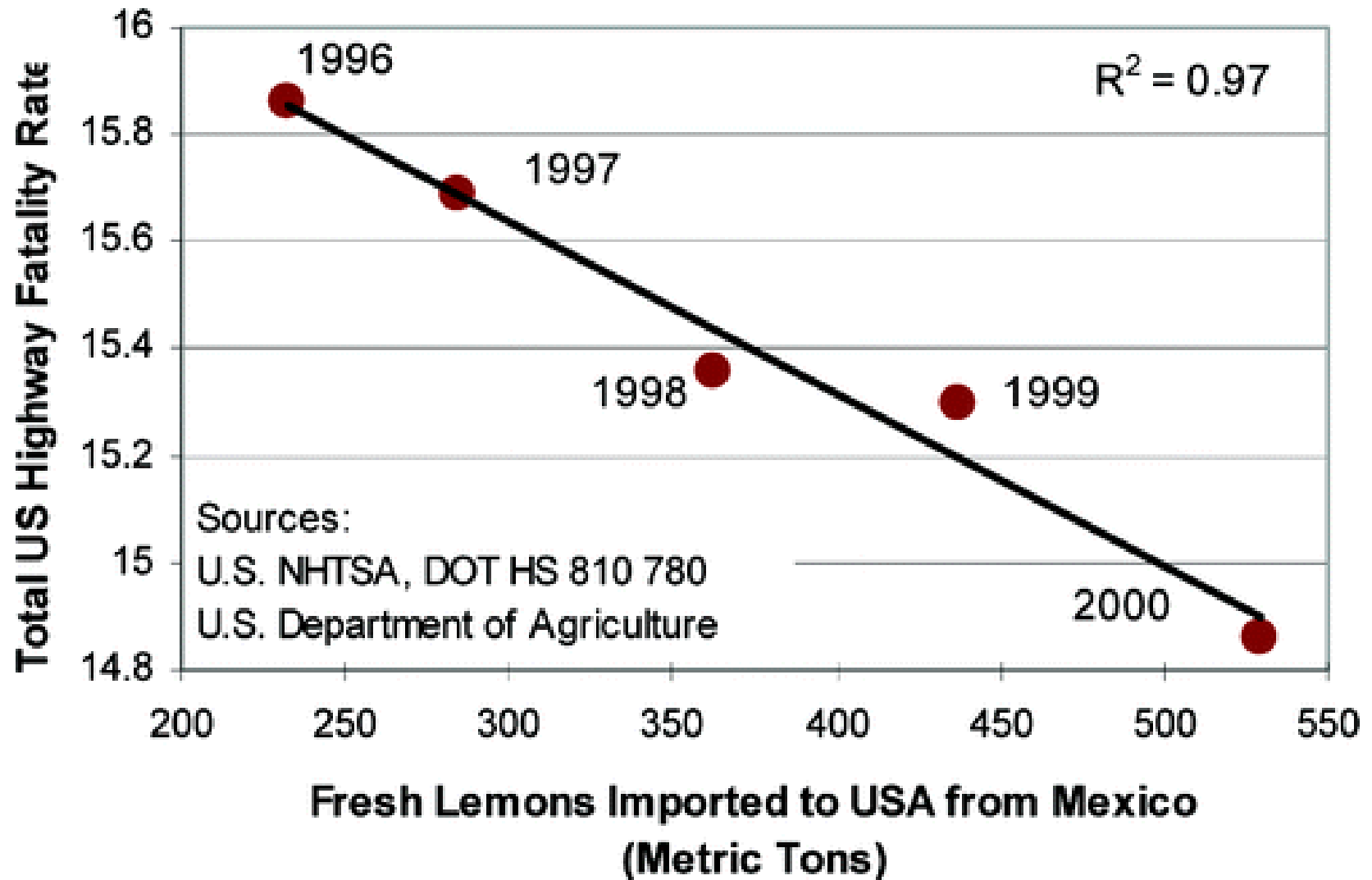
Inference:

- **Association is not causation**
- **Regression to the mean**

Confounders:

- **Secular trends in before-after studies**
- Hawthorne and Checklist effects
- Simpson's paradox

Do lemons from Florida cause US highway fatalities ?



Source:

www.cqeacademy.com/cqe-body-of-knowledge/continuous-improvement/quality-control-tools/

Association vs. causation:

Rochester library study

Study question: is hospital length of stay (LOS) shorter for patients of doctors who used the Rochester NY library ?

Study method: compare LOS in patients of Drs who used library often vs. patients whose Drs do not (case-control design)

Result: LOS significantly less in library-using Drs

Interpretation:

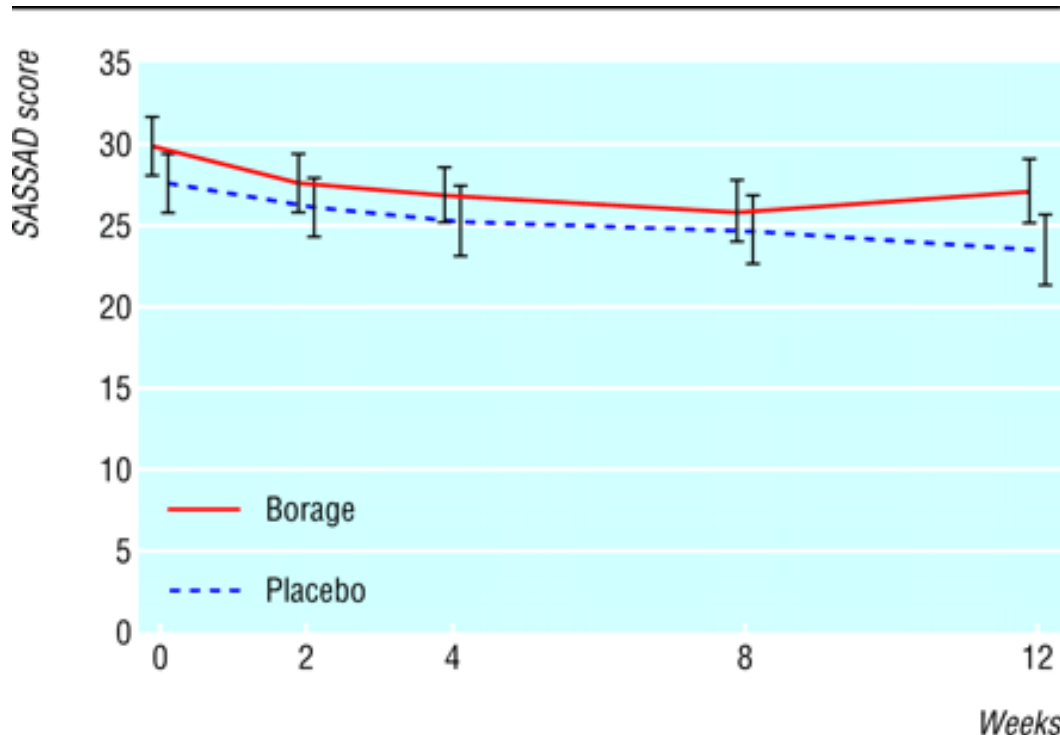
- Is library use the *cause* of reduced LOS ?
- Is library use a *marker* of doctors who keep patients in hospital less?
- Is library use the *result* of doctor keeping patients in hospital less ?!

A better question:

What is the impact on LOS of providing a sample of doctors with access to a library ?

Regression to the mean

If you chose individuals with extreme values for a variable, it will be closer to the mean the next time you measure it
Happens because sample is not randomly selected
Beware of this in before-after studies !

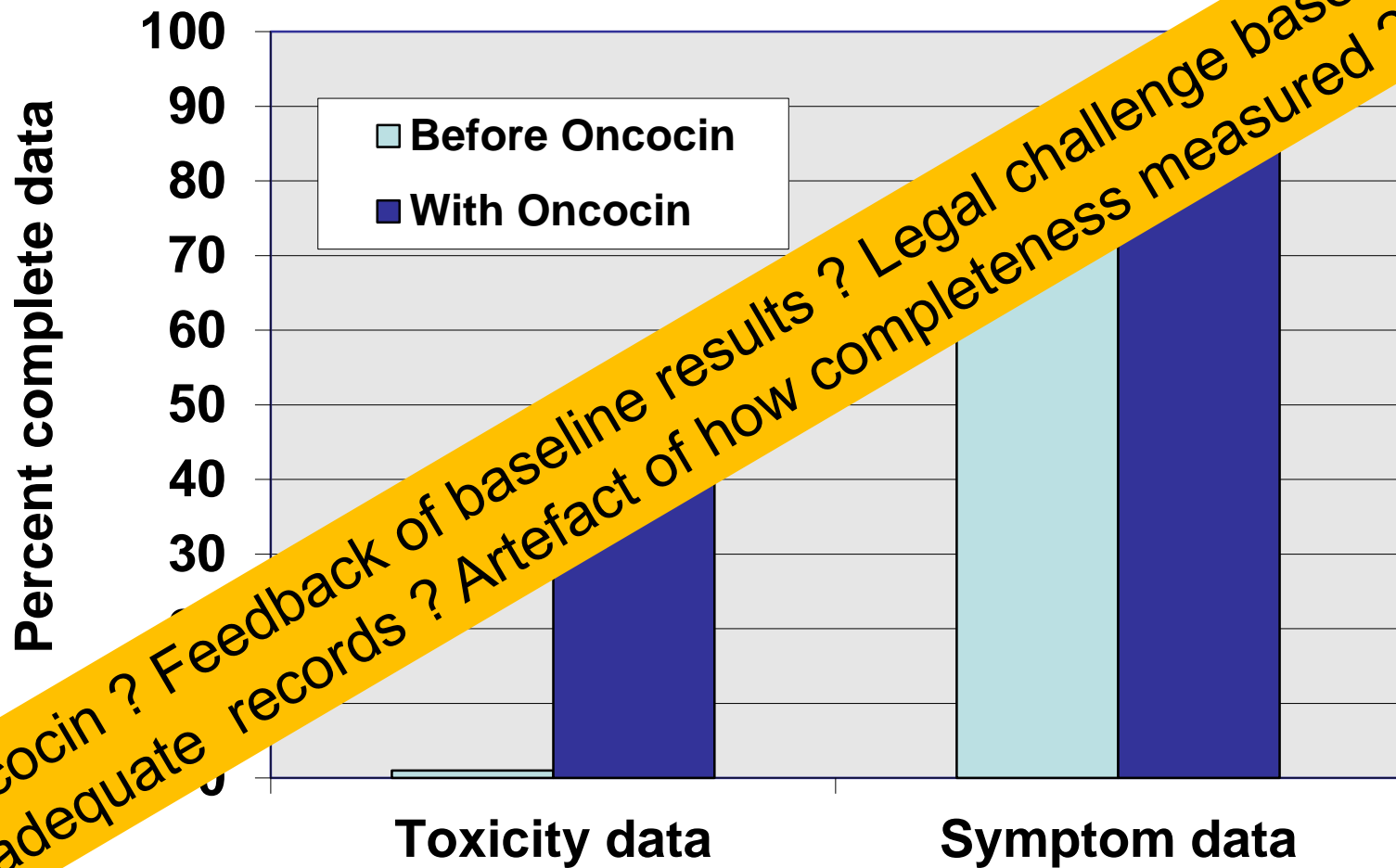


Trial of borage oil in people with atopic eczema ([Takwale et al., 2003](#)). Example from Martin Bland, York University.

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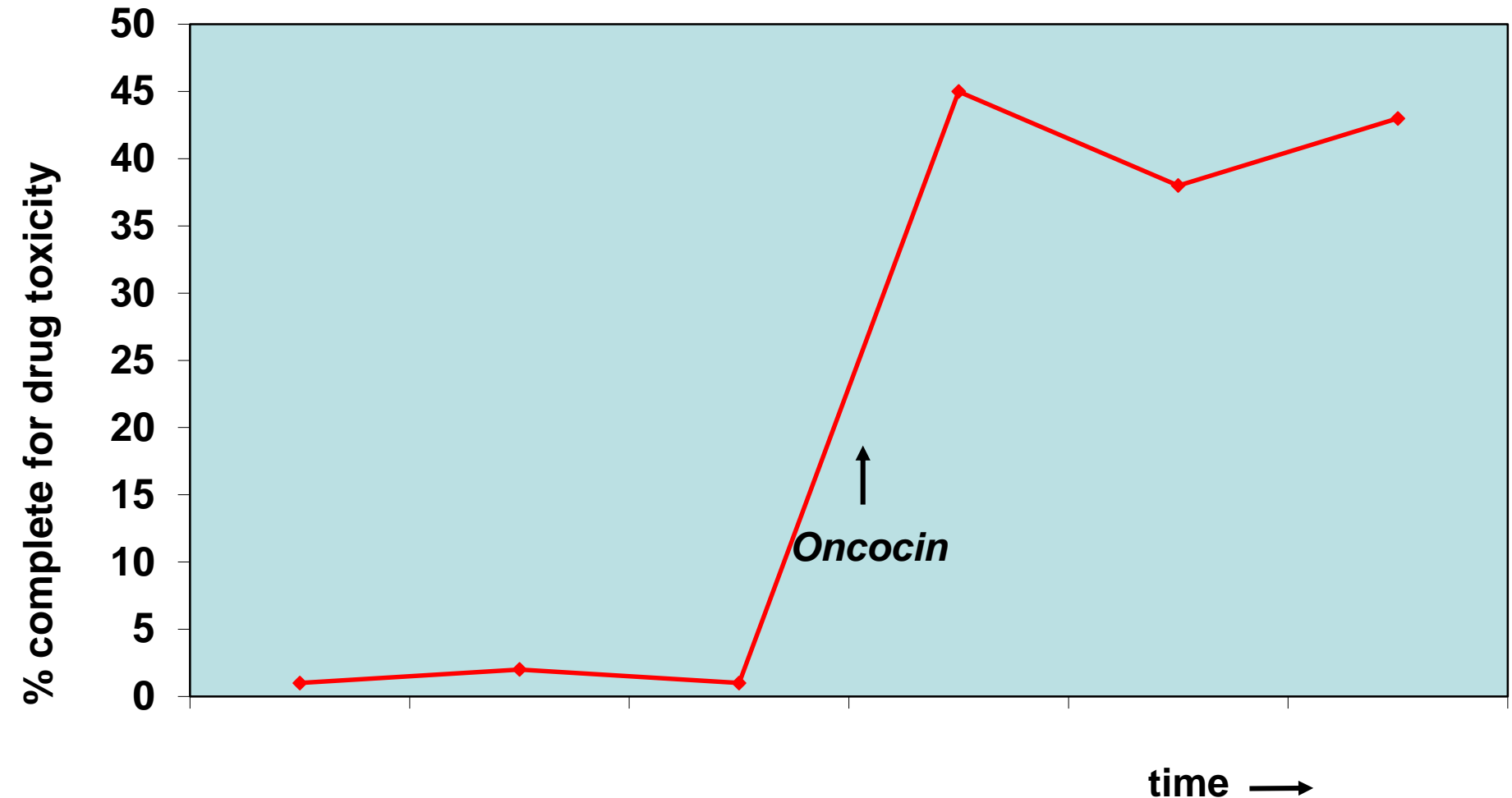
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Did Oncocin improve data quality ?

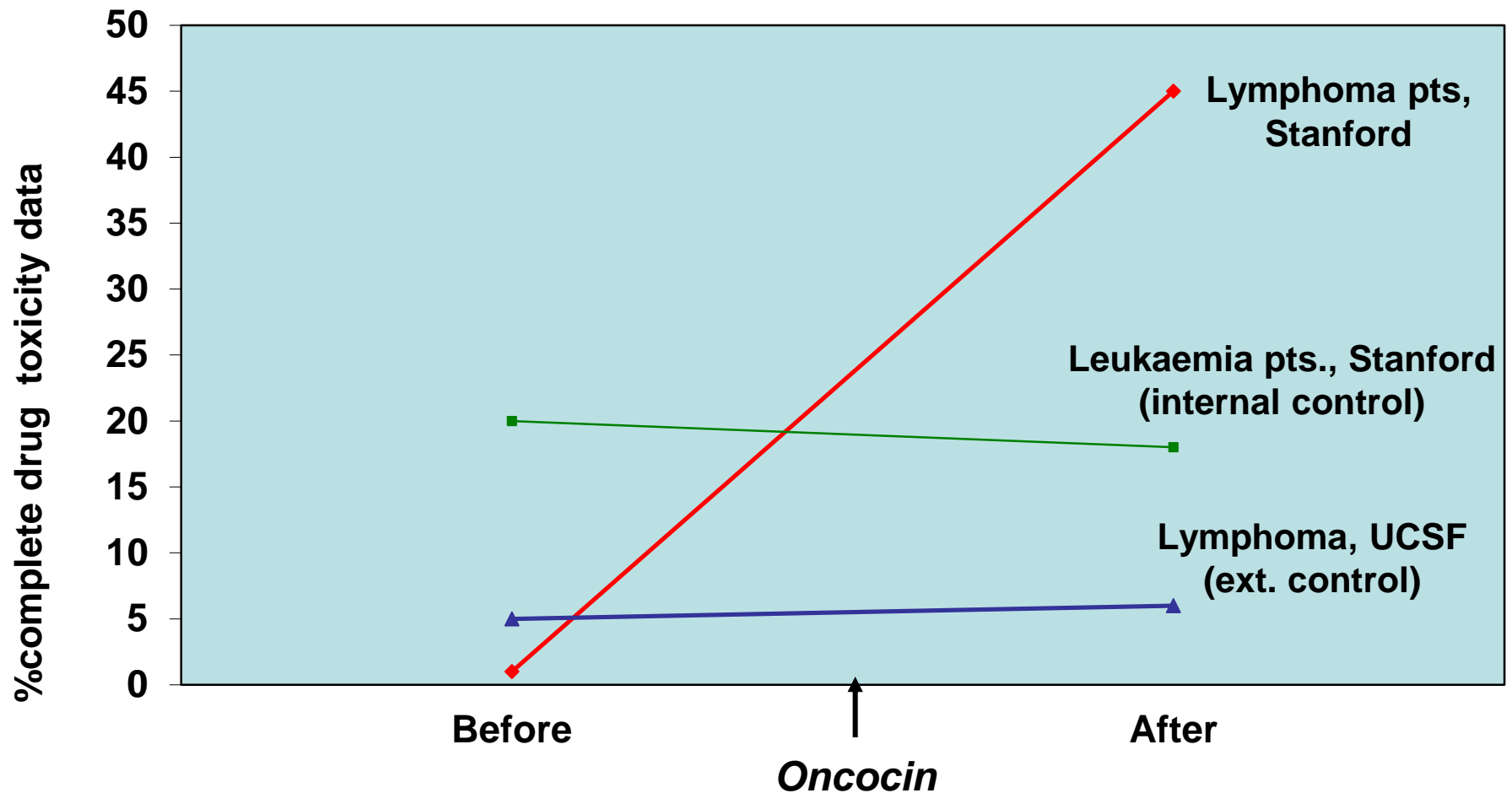


Oncocin ? Feedback of baseline results ? Legal challenge based on inadequate records ? Artefact of how completeness measured ?

Interrupted time series study design



Controlled before-after design




PhD project: RCT of GP teledermatology to prevent unnecessary referrals in 560 patients

Huisarts Mode

Home
New Case
Log out

Klik op de foto(s) om de originele grootte te bekijken



1. Patientgegevens

1.1 Code patiënt	03021984
1.2 Geslacht en leeftijd	Vrouw, 19 jaar oud
1.5 Beroep	?
1.4 Medische achtergrond	Andere
1.5 Evt. relevante medicatie	
1.7 Verstuurd naar	

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RCT of website design - does Fogg's theory help persuade people to donate organs for transplant?

Work of Thomas Nind,
PhD Student, Dundee

Learn more about organ donation

organanddonationrecruitment.com/?q=node/25

Organ Donation Website
What it is and whether it is for you

[home]

Learn more about organ donation before I making a decision

About 1 in 200 deaths in intensive care each year happen under circumstances where one or more people's lives [1-3]. In these cases the NHS approaches the next of kin to ask consent to perform an organ transplant.

Facing up to the death of a loved one is hard. Having to make a decision about whether or not to donate an organ to someone who has died can be difficult. The organ donors register allows individuals to make their wishes clear ahead of time.

Use the organ donation information menu to explore issues

Organ Donation Information

- How does the register work?
- How important is register?
- How does it work?
- How does it look the same?
- My organs might not be good enough

To Complete Study

If you have explored the Organ Donation information to your satisfaction please follow one of the links below

[I have decided to register now](#) [I have decided not to register](#)

References:

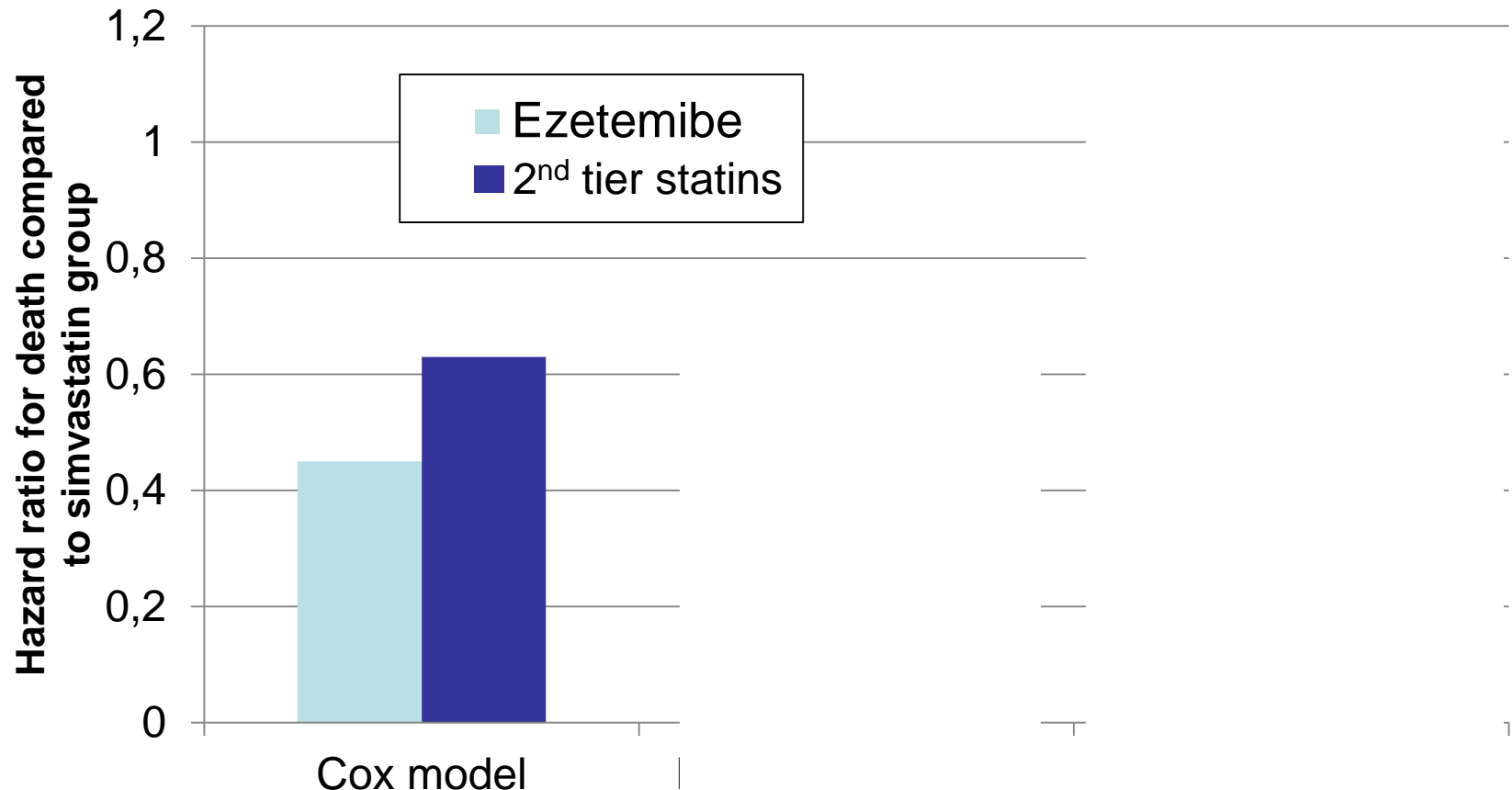
1. [Potential for organ donation in the United Kingdom: audit of intensive care records \(BMJ\)](#)
2. [Mortality statistics, Newport: Office for National Statistics, Deaths registered in 2006 \(pdf\)](#)
3. [The Registrar General's Review of Scotland's Population](#)

If you have any queries about this site, please contact the website manager [Thomas Nind](#). This site is funded by the [Chief Scientists Office](#).

Persuasive features:

1. URL includes https, dundee.ac.uk
2. University Logo
3. No advertising
4. References
5. Address & contact details
6. Privacy Statement
7. Articles all dated
8. Site certified (W3C / Health on Net)

RWE: bias estimating ezetimibe impact on mortality in 2233 post-MI deaths using CPRD



Eg. First MI; missing cholesterol; medication covariates, immortal time bias...

Source: Pauriah et al. Ezetimibe Use and Mortality in Survivors of an Acute Myocardial Infarction: A Population-based Study. **Heart** 2014

Mismatch between routine self report and objective data

Randomised trial of Text2Quit SMS programme in 503 US adults:

- **Self reported** cessation at 6 months: 20% in SMS group, 10% control group (effect size 2, NNT 10)
- **Biochemically confirmed** smoking cessation (saliva cotinine levels) at 6 months: 11% SMS group, 5% control group (effect size 2, NNT 18)
- Possible explanation: social response bias

Abroms et al, Am J Prev Med 2014

UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton



Big Health Data (or “Real World Evidence”) & evaluation

Possible responses

Yes, this is the intended benefit

- Oncocin required data before doctor could prescribe, other toxicity data entered from lab reports

No, it's an artefact of measurement methods

- Easier to check if data complete in database than paper record
- Definition of “complete data” changed (for paper records, no mention = no toxicity present)

No, it's an indirect impact via changes in staff

- New staff coincided with introduction of Oncocin
- Hawthorne effect, stimulated by presence of Oncocin in clinic
- Feedback of baseline results raised motivation

Numerous other possible explanations:

- Legal case, poor data quality, letter from chief executive
- New, toxic drug introduced
- Chance effect: small numbers...

Asthmopolis



Provider Dashboard

Controller Adherence

Total Patients: 149

56%

83/149



Well Controlled

36%

53/149



Not Well Controlled

8%

12/149



Very Poorly Controlled

Technique



17%



Good

18%

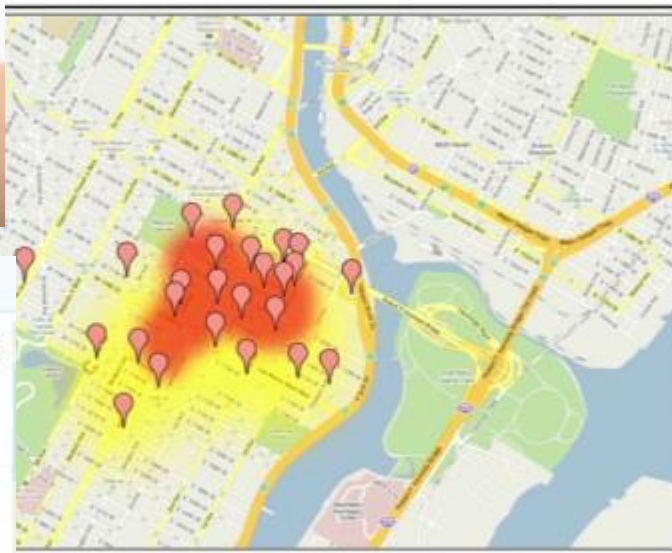


Better

65%



Best



Confounding by indication

40% of cancer patients treated with new drug survive 5 years
versus 30% of patients treated with old drug

Difference persists despite taking account of differences in
age, baseline cancer severity, etc. markers...

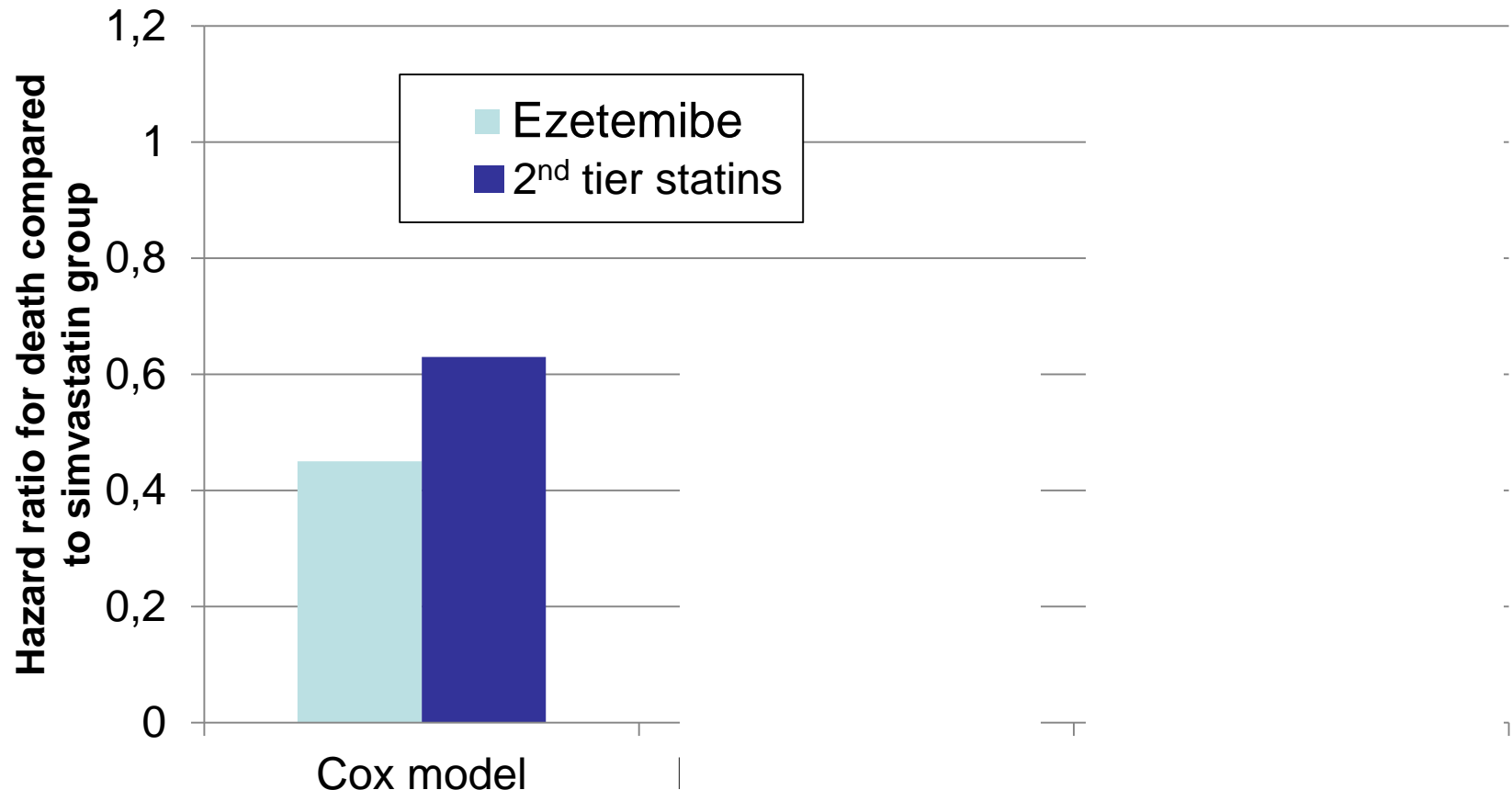
Conclusion: the new drug reduces mortality by 10%

But **maybe** allocation to new drug depends on the doctor's
intuition on who will survive (subtle predictive feature not
recorded in database)

So, receipt of new drug is a **marker** of better outcome -
not the cause

Propensity scoring as a potential solution to this

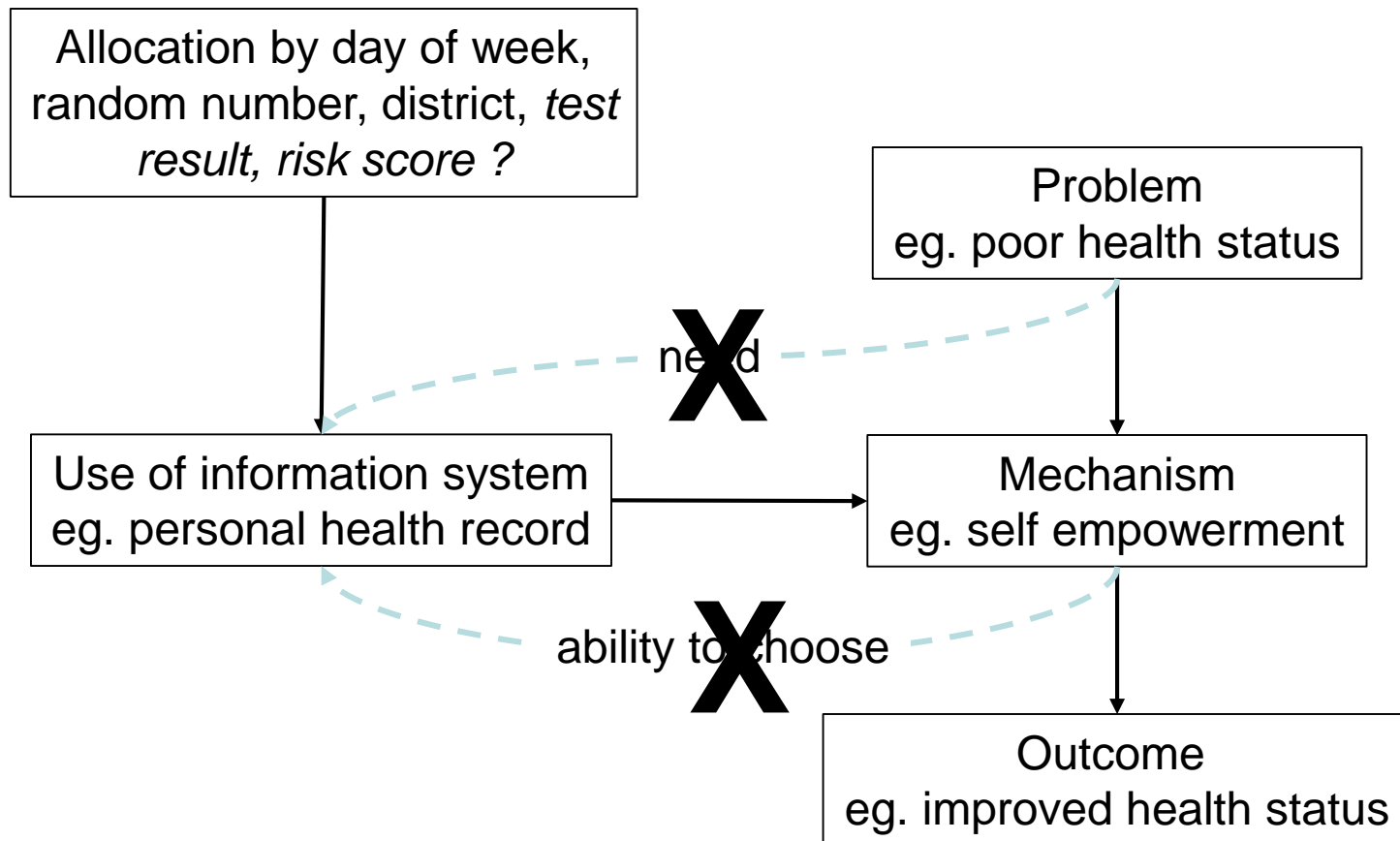
The impact of bias on estimating mortality for ezetimibe in 2233 post-MI deaths (all cause mortality)



Eg. First incident MI; missing cholesterol levels; medication covariates

Source: Pauriah et al. Ezetimibe Use and Mortality in Survivors of an Acute Myocardial Infarction: A Population-based Study. **Heart** 2014

Graphical models



Regression discontinuity design

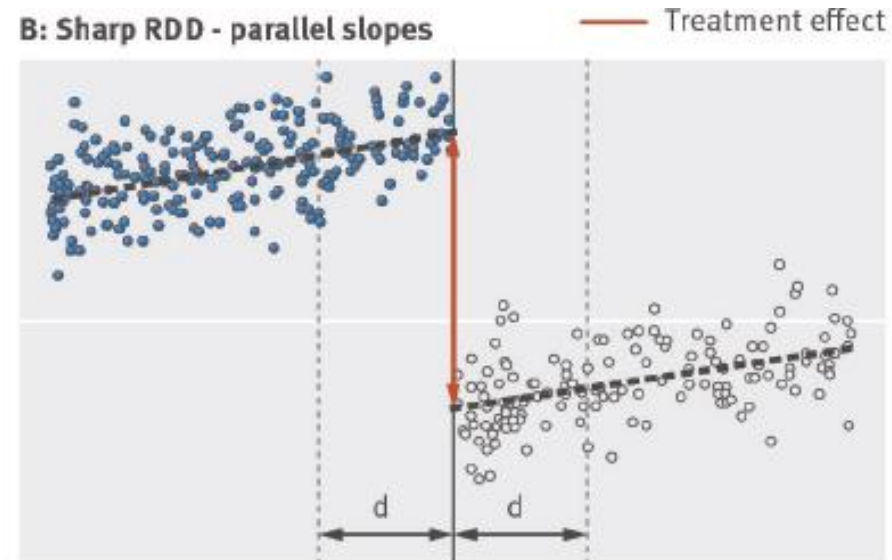
Some drugs / procedures are applied according to a test result or predictive model

People just above & just below an allocation threshold are very similar

If you have enough people to compare, you can *estimate* the impact of the intervention

Eg. chemotherapy on older women – RCT failed to recruit

Thistlethwaite & Campbell, 1960



Scenarios when RDD may be useful

When routine data are available

Treatment has already become established

“Randomisation is unethical”

Rare diseases with reluctance to refer to single centre

When RCTs recruit unrepresentative samples

Some concerns about the “data bit”

Can we re-use data captured for one purpose to inform another ?
(1st law of MI - Johan van der Lei, Lancet 1991)

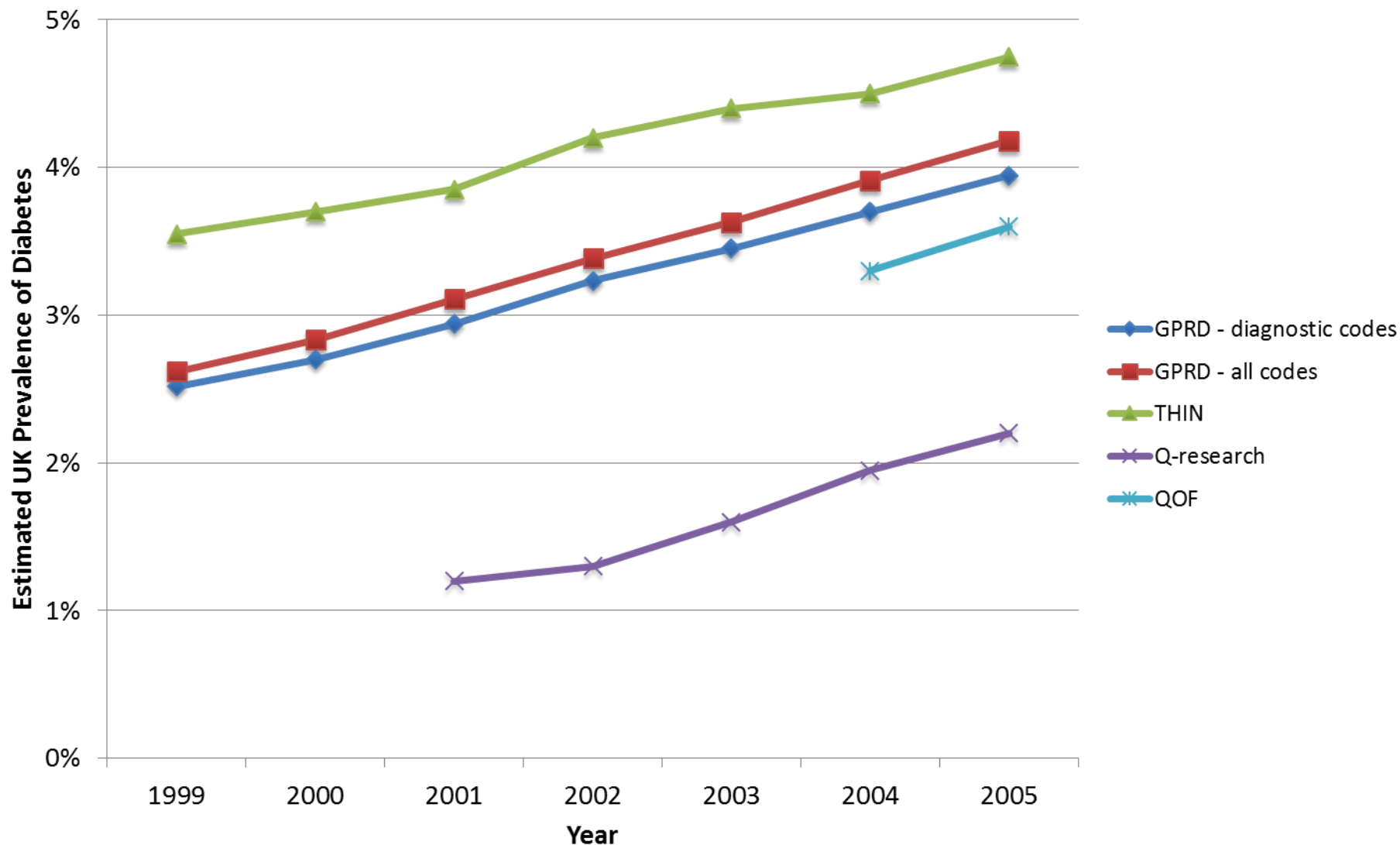
“Anonymisation” and privacy protection – EU GDPR 2018 –
700,000 opt outs from Care.data in UK...

Differing usage of common clinical codes in general practice [eg.
circa 45 codes to find asthma patients - www.clinicalcodes.org]

Variable / poor quality of routine health system data

Is our clinical data ontology sufficiently robust to drive a clinical
data semantic web / SOA ? [the bioinformatics ontology is]

Diabetes prevalence depends on which database you check, & how



Potential advantages of RWE

More power so can examine subgroups: datasets 100-1000 times larger than for RCTs

Can answer more questions - wider variety of data

More representative - data captured from routine care, cf. studies

Quicker and cheaper to answer questions: use existing datasets

Can use data-driven quality improvement to build continuous, rapid learning cycles – “Learning Health System”

Sherman et al – FDA view on RWE - NEJMed 2016

Lars Hemkens, Ioannidis et al – Routinely collected data, promises & limitations. CMAJ 2016

Potential disadvantages of RWE

Poor quality data due to misclassification bias (poor co-morbidity coding; identity or linkage problems) – so exclude many cases, or do manual case note review

Patient-relevant outcome data eg. PROMs missing

Cost of data capture systems is high (Addenbrookes' EPIC EPR: £200M + drop in CQC rating)

Hidden biases, eg. confounding by indication

Unclear inclusion criteria – datasets may be limited by differing case definition, geography, income, education...

Temptation to data dredge & all associations stat. significant leads to frequent false positive results

Worse publication bias than RCTs

Byar, Why databases should not replace trials, Biometrics 1980

Lars Hemkens, Ioannidis et al. CMAJ 2016

Good evaluation practice for eHealth interventions

1. Know why you are evaluating: who are the stakeholders, what decision do they face ?
2. Understand stakeholder questions and the level of evidence they need to answer them
3. Design your impact study with:
 - Enough participants of the right kind
 - The right intervention
 - The right control
 - Validated outcome measures
4. Check for biases and confounders, that you will learn something if study is negative
5. Run the study & report your results

See: Murray E et al. Design & evaluation of digital interventions. Am J Prev Med Nov 2016

Charles P. Friedman Jeremy C. Wyatt

Evaluation Methods in Biomedical Informatics



Second Edition

HEALTH INFORMATICS SERIES

Intervening in the app lifecycle

Stage in app lifecycle	Stakeholder	Quality improvement process	Example
Development	Developer	Involve clinicians / experts Refer to engineering standards Understand quality criteria Develop & evaluate app using appropriate framework	BSI app standard PAS 277 HON code, RCP checklist 13 questions (Murray, 2016)
Uploading to app store	App store	Check technical aspects Check privacy Check developer qualifications	iPhone store excludes drug-related apps unless developer is product licence holder
App rating	Raters	Wisdom of the crowd Use explicit criteria	Can fail: Abroms 2014 RCP checklist
Selection from the app store	User	Consider risks Check reviews Check quality Check CE mark, intended user, training needed etc.	Risk checklist iMedicalApps RCP checklist, CE mark Euroseal label (Rigby 2003)
Usage for self management	User	Notify regulator of errors, near misses	RCP guidance 2014
Removal from app store	Regulators	Respond to adverse events, lack of data to support claims	Acne apps