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Società Italiana di Statistica  
Medica ed Epidemiologia Clinica

Unità di Farmacoepidemiologia  
Dipartimento di Salute Pubblica

WORKSHOP

**LA DRUG UTILIZATION  
ATTRAVERSO  
I DATABASE AMMINISTRATIVI**

Milano, 27 novembre 2012

Database amministrativi e

OUTCOME

Giovanni Corrao



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI  
DI MILANO  
BICOCCA

## OUTCOME

## AGENDA



**Premessa** (di cosa stiamo parlando?)



**Fonti di incertezza** (è questo un campo promettente?)



**Nuove sfide** (cosa stiamo facendo?)

## OUTCOME



### Premessa



Fonti di incertezza



Nuove sfide

## Clinical review

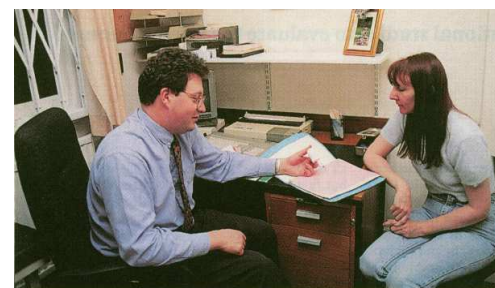
BMJ

1996;312:1215-8

### Why we need observational studies to evaluate the effectiveness of health care

Nick Black

The view is widely held that experimental methods (randomised controlled trials) are the “gold standard” for evaluation and that observational methods (cohort and case control studies) have little or no value. This ignores the limitations of randomised trials, which may prove unnecessary, inappropriate, impossible, or inadequate. Many of the problems of conducting randomised trials could often, in theory, be overcome, but the practical implications for researchers and funding bodies mean that this is often not possible. The false conflict between those who advocate randomised trials in all situations and those who believe observational data provide sufficient evidence needs to be replaced with mutual recognition of the complementary roles of the two approaches. Researchers should be united in their quest for scientific rigour in evaluation, regardless of the method used.



What work well in pharmacological research may not work in the messier world of clinical care

## Il disegno osservazionale di riferimento

### OUTCOME



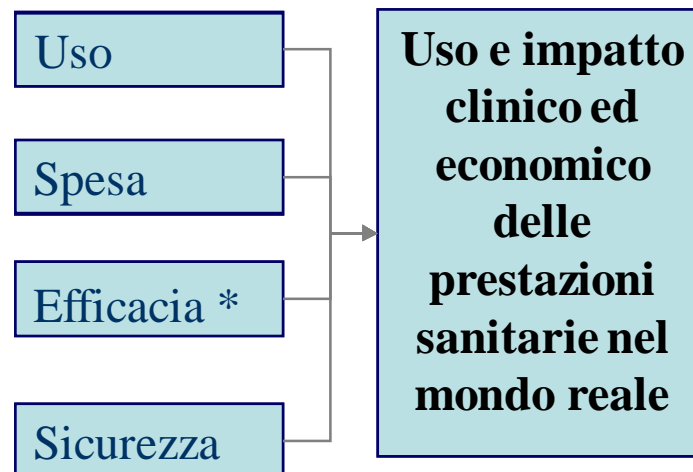
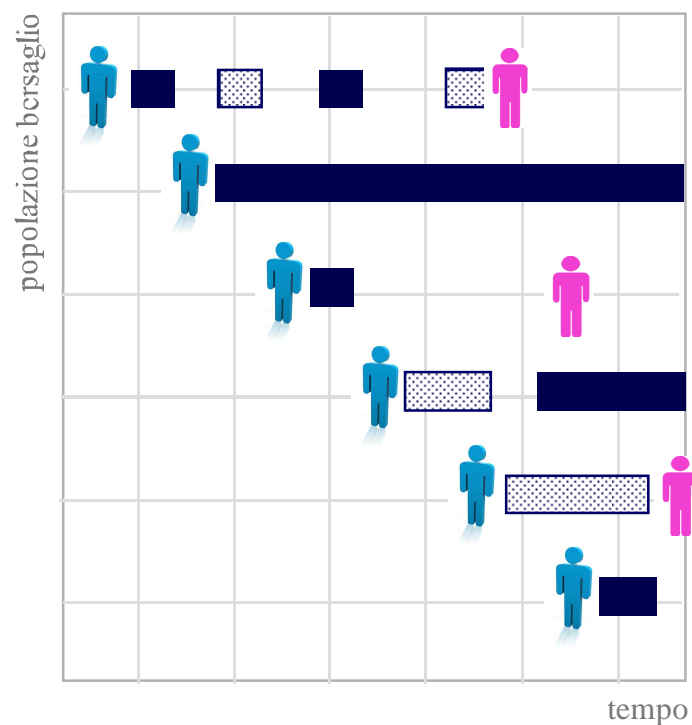
#### Premessa



Fonti di incertezza



Nuove sfide



\* Comparative effectiveness

# Il monitoraggio dei percorsi assistenziali

## OUTCOME



### Premessa



Fonti di incertezza

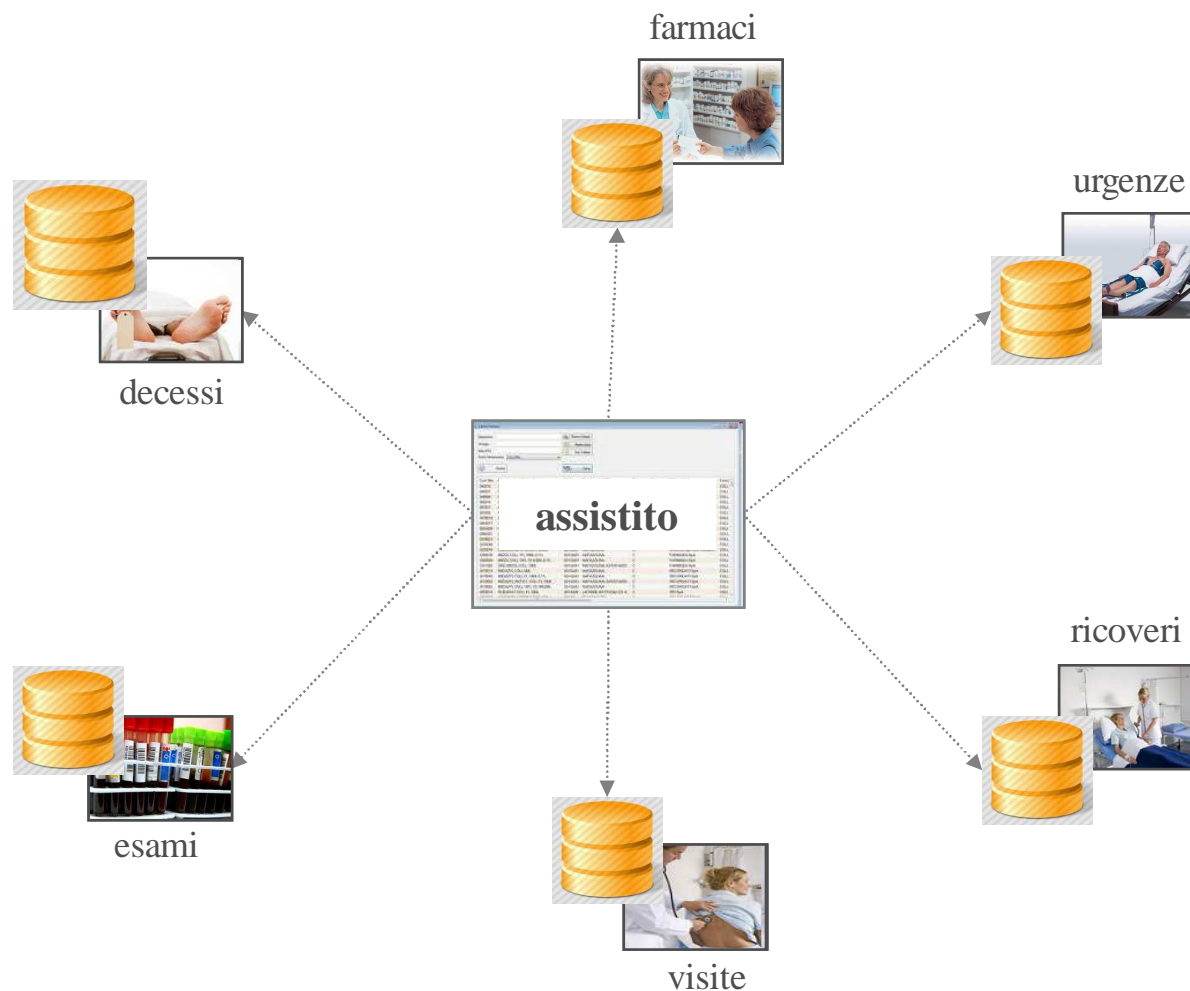


Nuove sfide



LA DRUG UTILIZATION  
ATTRAVERSO  
I DATABASE AMMINISTRATIVI

Milano, 27 novembre 2012



## OUTCOME

## FORZA

## DEBOLEZZA



### Premessa



Fonti di incertezza

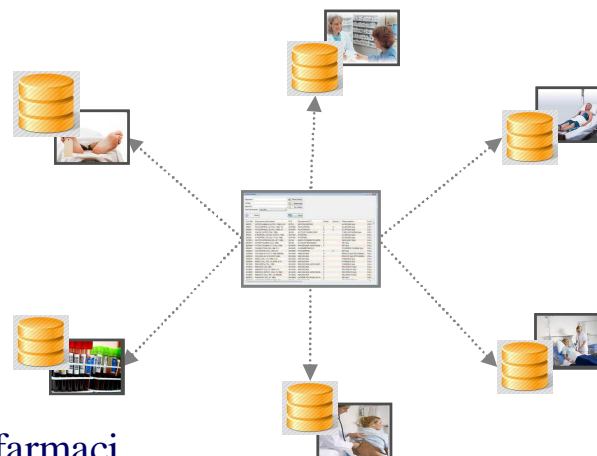


Nuove sfide

● Dati disponibili

● Popolazioni ampie e ben definite

● Uso e impatto dei farmaci nella pratica clinica corrente



■ Solo farmaci in classe A

■ Incerta qualità dei dati

■ Carenza di dati sui pazienti

## OUTCOME



Premessa



**Fonti di incertezza**



Nuove sfide

# FONTI DI INCERTEZZA SISTEMATICA (due esempi)



Misclassificazione dell'esposizione

Confondimento non misurato

## Come misuriamo l'esposizione?

### OUTCOME



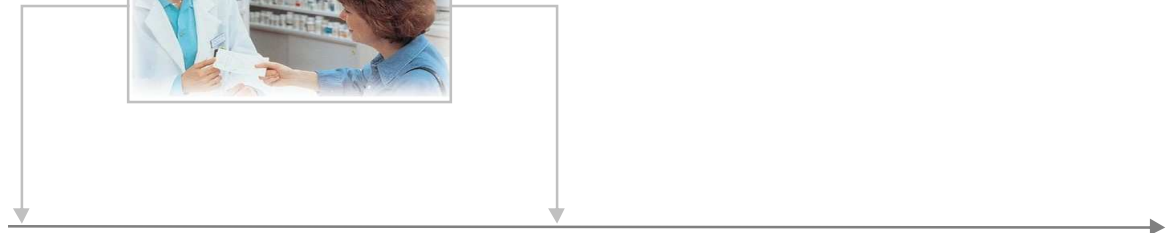
Premessa



**Fonti di incertezza**



Nuove sfide



tempo



# Misclassificazione dell'esposizione?

## OUTCOME

**Journal of  
Clinical  
Epidemiology**

2004;57:973-7

Misclassification of exposure is high when interview data on drug use are used as a proxy measure of chronic drug use during follow-up

Annette B. Beiderbeck<sup>a,b</sup>, Miriam C.J.M. Sturkenboom<sup>b</sup>, Jan W.W. Coebergh<sup>b</sup>,  
Hubert G.M. Leufkens<sup>a</sup>, Bruno H.Ch. Stricker<sup>b,\*</sup>



Premessa



Fonti di incertezza



Nuove sfide

### Validity of interview-based exposure measurement for the assessment of exposure to CCBs

		User status, pharmacy		
		User	Nonuser	Total
User status, interview	User	203	3	206
	Nonuser	354	1,927	2,281
	Total	557	1,930	2,487

## Come misuriamo la durata dell'esposizione?

### OUTCOME



Premessa



**Fonti di incertezza**



Nuove sfide



DDD: defined daily dose

# Come misuriamo la durata dell'esposizione?

## OUTCOME



Premessa



Fonti di incertezza




Nuove sfide



LA DRUG UTILIZATION  
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Milano, 27 novembre 2012


WHO Collaborating Centre for  
Drug Statistics Methodology

News	<h2 style="color: #0056b3;">Definition and general considerations</h2> <div style="border: 2px solid #800040; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><b>Definition and introduction</b></p> <p>The basic <b>definition</b> of the defined daily dose (DDD) is:</p> <p><i>The DDD is the assumed average maintenance dose per day for a drug used for its main indication in adults.</i></p> </div> <p>A DDD will only be assigned for drugs that already have an ATC code.</p> <div style="border: 2px solid #800040; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>It should be emphasised that the defined daily dose is a unit of measurement and does not necessarily reflect the recommended or Prescribed Daily Dose.</p> <p>will often differ from the DDD and will necessarily have to be based on individual characteristics (e.g. age and weight) and pharmacokinetic considerations.</p> </div>
ATC/DDD Index	
ATC/DDD methodology	
ATC	
DDD	
Definition and general considerations	
Application for DDD	
Application for DDD alterations	
Application form	
Lists of new ATC/DDDs and alterations	
List of DDDs combined products	
ATC/DDD alterations, cumulative lists	

# Misclassificazione dell'esposizione?

## OUTCOME



Premessa

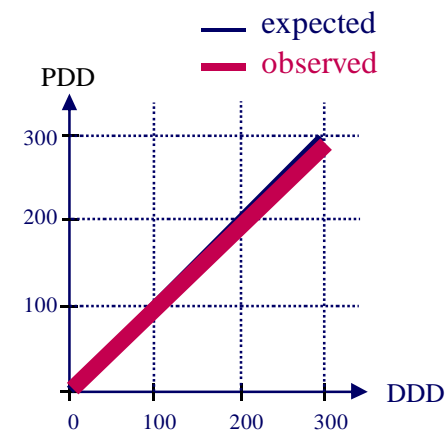


Fonti di incertezza



Nuove sfide

	N. observations	Beta estimates
Indometacin	7324	1.261
Sulindac	876	1.64
Diclofenac	239201	0.978
Acetaminofene	1,617	1.745
Diclofenac, combination	35045	1.001
Piroxicam	13,537	1.002
Tenoxicam	55	1.295
Meloxicam	18,647	1.482
Ibuprofen	199505	1.218
Naproxen	139,784	0.713
Ketoprofen	2662	0.941
Flurbiprofen	473	1.214
Tiaprofenic acid	2163	1.545
Dexibuprofen	481	1.013
Dexketoprofen	75	1.451
Celecoxib	2,934	1.099
Rofecoxib	12636	1.343
Valdecoxib	132	0.406
Etoricoxib	2317	0.879
Nabumetone	12,093	0.947



$$RR_{obs} = RR$$

## Misclassificazione dell'esposizione?

### OUTCOME



Premessa

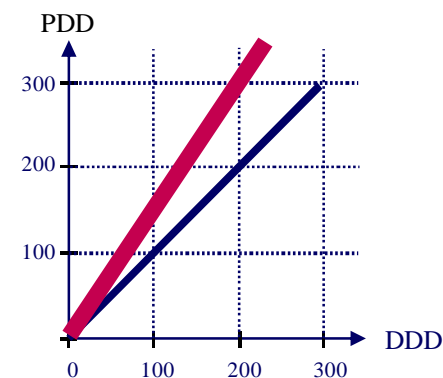


Fonti di incertezza



Nuove sfide

	N. observations	Beta estimates
Indometacin	7324	1.261
Sulindac	876	1.64
Diclofenac	239201	0.978
Aceclofenac	1,607	1.443
Diclofenac, combination	35045	1.001
Piroxicam	13,537	1.002
Tenoxicam	55	1.295
Meloxicam	18,647	1.482
Ibuprofen	199505	1.218
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Nabumetone	12,093	0.947



$$RR_{obs} > RR$$

# Misclassificazione dell'esposizione?

## OUTCOME

	N. observations	Beta estimates
Indometacin	7324	1.261
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Dexibuprofen	481	1.013
Dexketoprofen	75	1.451
Celecoxib	2,934	1.099
Rofecoxib	12,626	1.242
<b>Valdecoxib</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>0.406</b>
Etoricoxib	2,517	0.879
Nabumetone	12,093	0.947



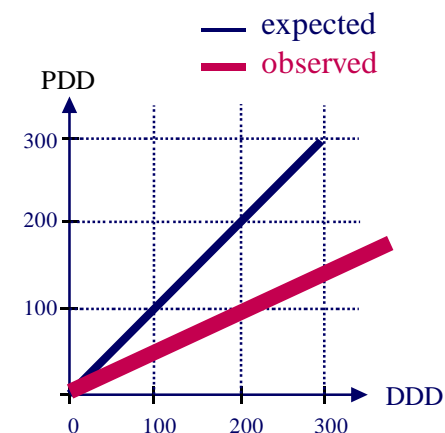
Premessa



Fonti di incertezza



Nuove sfide



$$RR_{obs} < RR$$

# Correzione della misclassificazione dell'esposizione: regression calibration

## OUTCOME



Regression calibration method for correcting measurement-error bias in nutritional epidemiology<sup>1-3</sup>

Donna Spiegelman, Aidan McDermott, and Bernard Rosner



*The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*

1997;65(suppl):1179S-86S

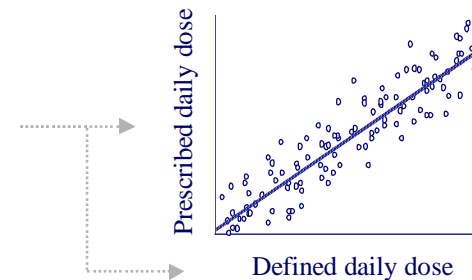
$$RR = RR_{obs} / \beta$$

$$RR_{obs} = f(DDD) \neq RR$$

**Studio principale**  
(DB amministrativi)

$$PDD = \beta DDD + \epsilon$$

**Studio secondario**  
(di validazione)



Premessa



Fonti di incertezza



Nuove sfide



LA DRUG UTILIZATION  
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## OUTCOME



Premessa



**Fonti di incertezza**



Nuove sfide

# DUE FONTI DI INCERTEZZA SISTEMATICA (esempi)

Misclassificazione dell'esposizione



Confondimento non misurato

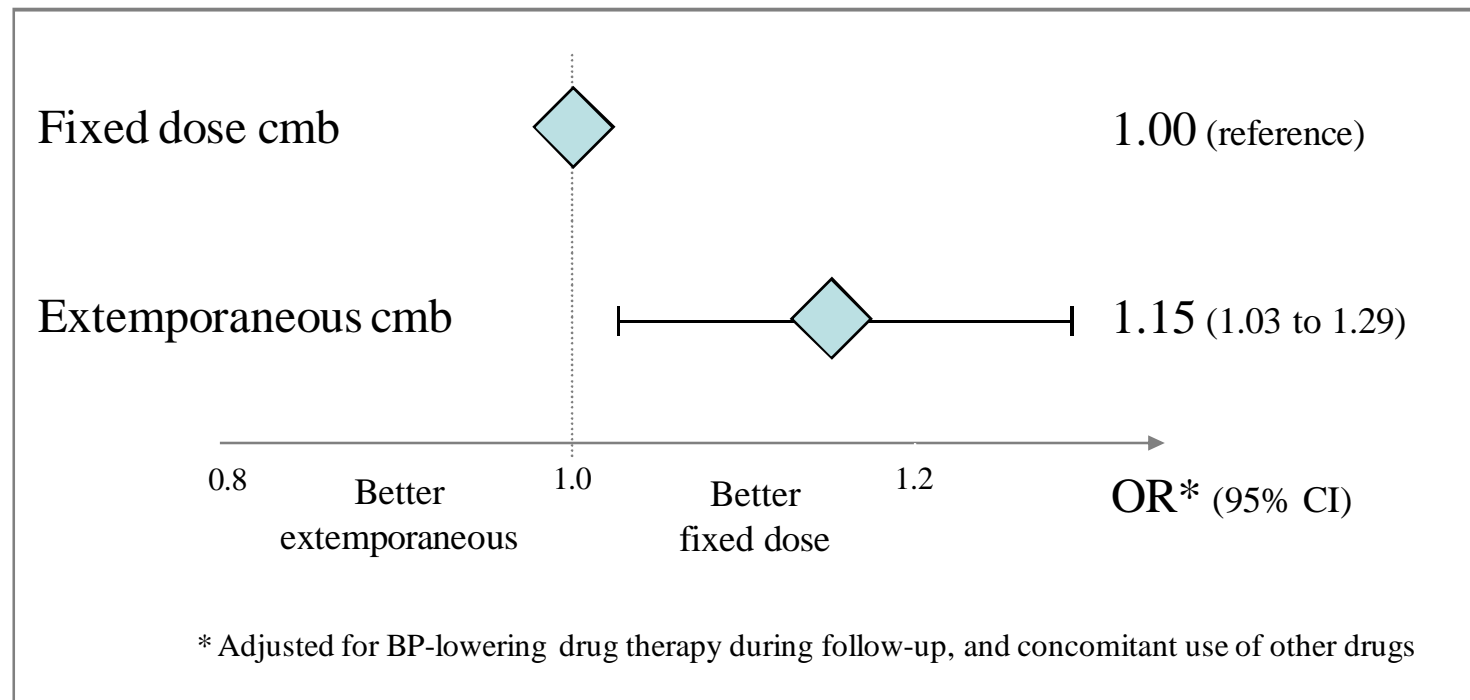




**Trattamento anti-ipertensivo**

**OUTCOME**

**Patients who started on fixed dose combination had lower CV risk than those who started on extemporaneous combination**



Premessa



Fonti di incertezza



Nuove sfide



**Trattamento anti-ipertensivo**

**Patients who started on fixed dose combination had better clinical profile than those who started on extemporaneous combination**

**OUTCOME**

	Fixed dose cmb	Extemporaneous cmb
<b>Severity of hypertension</b>		
Moderate	83.3%	79.8%
Severe	16.7%	20.1%
<b>Chronic disease score</b>		
0	74.5%	65.7%
1	21.8%	26.6%
2	3.8%	7.7%



Premessa



Fonti di incerte:



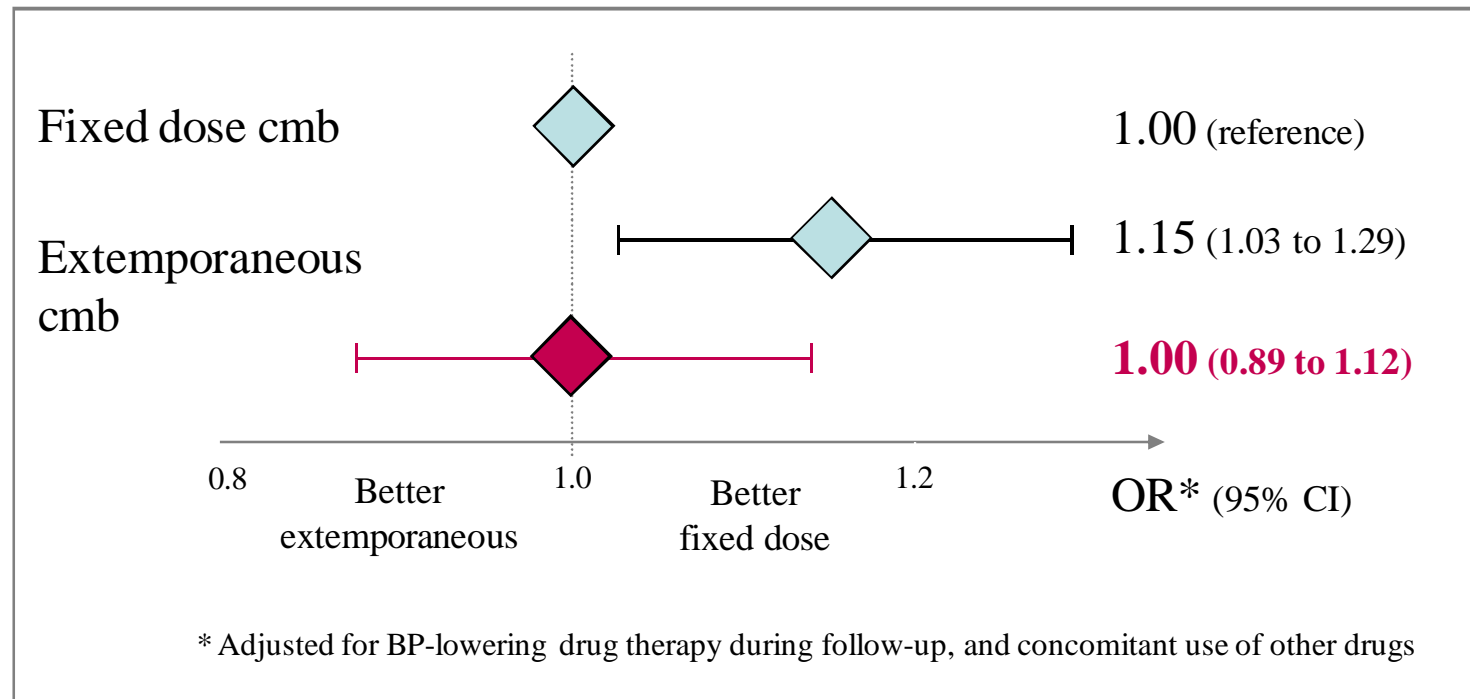
Nuove sfide

**OUTCOME**

**Correzione del  
confondimento non misurato:  
aggiustamento esterno secondo Greenland**

Confondimento non misurato

La fonte



Premessa



Fonti di incertezza



Nuove sfide

Il metodo

# Come affrontare il problema della vulnerabilità al confondimento?

## OUTCOME



Premessa



**Fonti di incertezza**

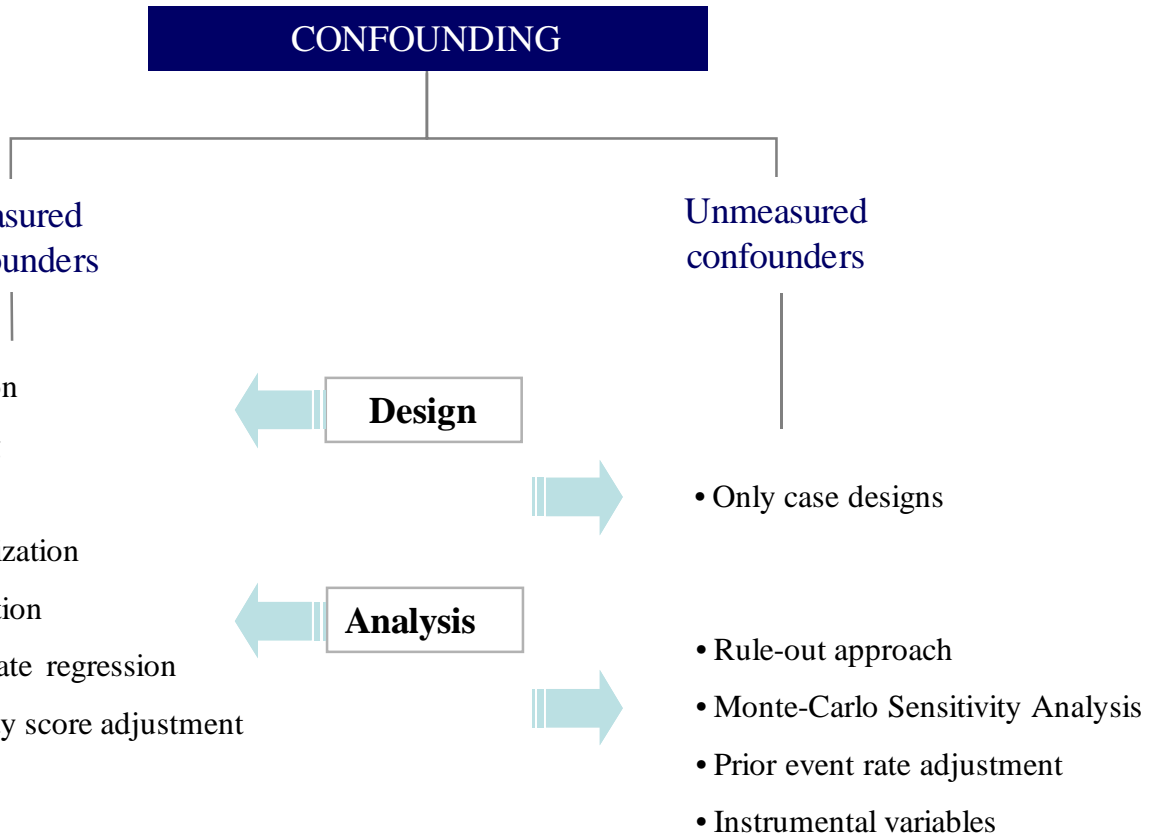


Nuove sfide



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Milano, 27 novembre 2012



## Controlling for unmeasured confounders in observational studies

### OUTCOME



Premessa



Fonti di incertezza



Nuove sfide



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### Annals of Internal Medicine

2008;149:380-90

#### Risk for Death Associated with Medications for Recently Diagnosed Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Todd A. Lee, PharmD, PhD; A. Simon Pickard, PhD; David H. Au, MD, MS; Brian Bartle, MPH; and Kevin B. Walz, MD, MPH, MS

### ARCHIVES OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

2008;168:2081-7

#### Preadmission Use of Statins and Outcomes After Hospitalization With Pneumonia

Population-Based Cohort Study of 29 900 Patients

Reimar W. Thomsen, MD, PhD; Anders Riis, MSc; Jette B. Komum, MD; Steffen Christensen, MD; Søren P. Johnsen, MD, PhD; Henrik T. Sørensen, MD, DMSc

### THE AMERICAN JOURNAL of MEDICINE

2009;122:647-55

#### Effect of Statin Adherence on Cerebrovascular Disease in Primary Prevention

Sylvie Perreault, BPharm, PhD;<sup>1</sup> Laura Ellia, MSc;<sup>2</sup> Alice Dragomir, MSc;<sup>3</sup> Robert Côté, MD, FRCPC;<sup>4</sup> Lucie Blais, PhD;<sup>5</sup> Anick Bérard, PhD;<sup>6</sup> Lyne Lalonde, BPharm, PhD<sup>7</sup>

### JAMA<sup>®</sup>

The Journal of the American Medical Association

2009;302:1782-9

#### Cardiovascular and Noncardiovascular Mortality Among Patients Starting Dialysis

Dinanda J. de Jager, MSc; Diana C. Grootendorst, PhD; Kitty J. Jager, MD, PhD; Paul C. van Dijk, PhD; Lonneke M. J. Tomas; David Ansell, PhD; Frederic Collart, MD, PhD; Patrik Finne, MD, PhD; James G. Heaf, MD, DMSc; Johan De Meester, MD, PhD; Jack F. M. Wetzels, MD, PhD; Frits R. Rosendaal, MD, PhD; Friedo W. Dekker, PhD

### The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

2009;360:1815-26

#### Effect of Early versus Deferred Antiretroviral Therapy for HIV on Survival

Mari M. Kitahata, M.D., M.P.H.; Stephen J. Gange, Ph.D.; Alison G. Abraham, Ph.D.; Barry Meriman, M.A.; Michael S. Saag, M.D.; Amy C. Justice, M.D., Ph.D.; Robert S. Hogg, Ph.D.; Steven G. Deeks, M.D.; Joseph J. Eron, M.D.; John T. Brooks, M.D.; Sean B. Rourke, Ph.D.; M. John Gill, M.B., Ch.B.; Ronald J. Bosch, Ph.D.; Jeffrey N. Martin, M.D., M.P.H.; Marina B. Klein, M.D.; Lisa P. Jacobson, Sc.D.; Benjamin Rodriguez, M.D.; Timothy R. Sterling, M.D.; Gregory D. Kirk, M.D., Ph.D.; Sanya Nayak, Ph.D.; Anita F. Bhabha, MD; Ursula M. Caiaffa, Ph.D.; Michaela Horberg, M.D.; Michael J. Silverberg, Ph.D.; Kelly A. Gebo, M.D., M.P.H.; James J. Goedert, M.D.; Constantine A. Benson, M.D.; Ann C. Collier, M.D.; Stephen E. Van Renswou, Ph.D.; Heidi M. Crane, M.D., M.P.H.; Rosemary G. McKelg, Ph.D.; Ryan Lau, Ph.D.; Aimee M. Freeman, M.A.; and Richard D. Moore, M.D., for the NA-ACCORD Investigators<sup>1</sup>

### BMJ

2011;342:d1672

#### Statin treatment for primary prevention of vascular disease: whom to treat? Cost-effectiveness analysis

JP Greving, research fellow in clinical epidemiology;<sup>1</sup> FLJ Visseren, internist and professor of vascular medicine;<sup>2</sup> GA de Wit, associate professor of health technology assessment;<sup>1,3</sup> A Algra, professor of clinical epidemiology<sup>1,4</sup>

## OUTCOME



Premessa



Fonti di incertezza



Nuove sfide

# Cosa abbiamo imparato?

La biostatistica e la metodologia epidemiologica offrono un'ampia gamma di modelli e disegni volti ad affrontare le insidie insite nel metodo osservazionale senza per questo ostacolarne la versatilità e la capacità di adattarsi a un vasto spettro di obiettivi

## OUTCOME



Premessa



Fonti di incertezza



Nuove sfide



A scientific alliance for

# Carry out a **R**epository for **A**dministrative and **C**linical data **K**notting

Evaluating the management of chronic conditions in real world clinical  
practice

## OUTCOME



Premessa



Fonti di incertezza



Nuove sfide



John Lennon, 1971