

# Week 7 - Intent to Treat and Non-Compliance

Stat 209

## EXAMPLES

### Coronary Drug Project

- Randomized, multi-center, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of clofibrate for treatment for coronary heart disease
  - 1103 men on clofibrate
  - 2789 men on placebo
- ITT analysis of 5-year mortality on clofibrate was 20.0%, 20.9% on placebo ( $p=0.55$ )

*no drug effect*

- In **clofibrate** subjects, mortality rates at 5 years were
  - Compliant: 15.0%
  - Non-compliant: 24.6%
- Subjects **compliant** with clofibrate had significantly lower mortality ( $p=0.0001$ )!
- Explanatory analysis – compare compliant clofibrate subjects to subjects without adequate clofibrate intake (clofibrate noncompliers and placebo subjects) – **significant!**

*maybe drug good?*

But, in **placebo** subjects, mortality rates at 5 years were

- Compliant: 15.1%
- Non-compliant: 28.2%

Subjects compliant with placebo had significantly lower mortality ( $p < 0.0001$ )!

The explanatory analysis would miss this effect of compliance ?

### Actual Practice of ITT

Survey of randomized controlled trials published in 1997 in BMJ, Lancet, JAMA, and NEJM (Hollis & Campbell)

Out of 249 trials, 119 (48%) explicitly stated that an ITT analysis was performed

- 15 (13%) clearly did not analyze as randomized
- 65 (55%) appeared to analyze as randomized, but without enough detail for the readers to verify
- No consistent method for handling withdrawal

## ② Compliance -- The IV approach

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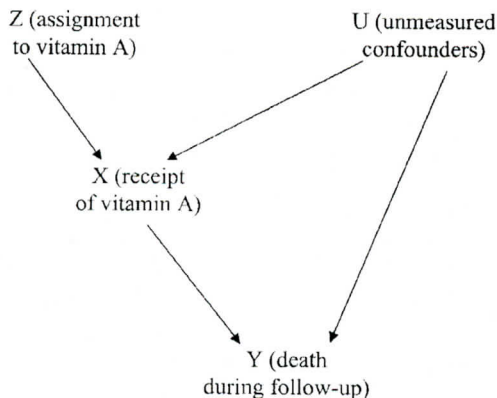


Figure 1

INSTRUMENTAL VARIABLES FOR EPIDEMIOLOGISTS 723  
Greenland IJE 2000

these concepts, Table 1 presents individual one-year mortality data from a cluster-randomized trial of vitamin A supplementation in childhood.<sup>18,20</sup> Of 450 villages, 229 were assigned to a treatment in which village children received two oral doses of vitamin A; children in the 221 control villages were assigned none. This protocol resulted in 12 094 children assigned to the treatment ( $Z = 1$ ) and 11 588 assigned to the control ( $Z = 0$ ). Only children assigned to treatment received the treatment; that is, no one had  $Z = 0$  and  $X = 1$ . Unfortunately, 2419 (20%) of those assigned to the treatment did not receive the treatment (had  $Z = 1$  and  $X = 0$ ), resulting in only 9675 receiving treatment ( $X = 1$ ). Nonetheless, assumption 1 is satisfied if the randomization was not subverted, while assumption 2 is supported by the data: Assignment to vitamin A increased the percentage receiving A from 0 to 80%.

Table 1 One-year mortality data from cluster-randomized trial of vitamin A supplementation in children.<sup>20</sup>  $Z = 1$  if assigned A, 0 if not;  $X = 1$  if received A, 0 if not

	Z = 1			Z = 0	
	X = 1	X = 0	Total	X = 1	X = 0
Deaths (Y = 1)	12	34	46	0	74
Total	9675	2419	12 094	0	11 588
Risk <sup>a</sup>	124	1406	380	undefined	639

<sup>a</sup> Deaths per 100 000 within one year.

*analysis in HW*

p. 2 compliance not dichotomous

Compliance Efron-Feldman (JASA 1991)  
 $z(u)$  compliance patient  $u$  (cholestyramine grit)

$y_0(u)$  response (cholesterol reduction) patient  $u$  if placebo

$y_x(u)$  response  $y$  patient  $u$  if given dose  $x$  active drug

$$y_x(u) = G_x + (1 + H_x) y_0(u) + e_x(u) \quad G_0 = H_0 = 0$$

$$\delta(x) = E(y_x(u) - y_0(u)) = G_x + H_x (E y_0(u)) \quad \text{dose-response diff}$$

Data: ave compliance .601  $\bar{y}_T = 32.81, \bar{y}_C = 8.29$  (29.52)  
 note  $29.52 / .601 = 49.3$

difference of dose-response curve at  $\hat{\delta}(z)$  at  $z = .601$   
 $\hat{\delta}(.6) = 20.8 \quad \hat{\delta}(1) = 34.5$

Compliance as an Explanatory Variable in Clinical Trials

B. Efron and D. Feldman

Treatment Group  $n=164$

Control Group  $n=171$

