



# EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS IN DRUG DEVELOPMENT

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**EFSPI Evidence Synthesis 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016**

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# AGENDA

- What do we mean by evidence synthesis?
- Evidence synthesis methods
- Using evidence synthesis in drug development
- Amgen's HTA evidence based methods platform
- Strategic role for statisticians
- Conclusions

# WHAT DO WE MEAN BY EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS?

## EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS DEFINITION\*

- **Evidence synthesis** involves the development of techniques to combine multiple sources of quantitative **evidence**. In health technology assessment, meta-analysis is a well-established body of techniques for combining **evidence** from high-quality trials.

\* Source: Wikipedia

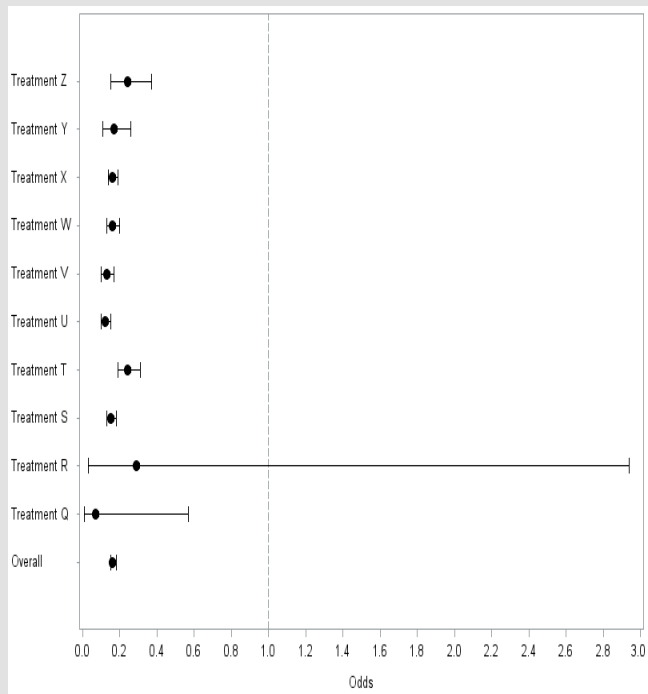
# EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS METHODS

## EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS METHODS

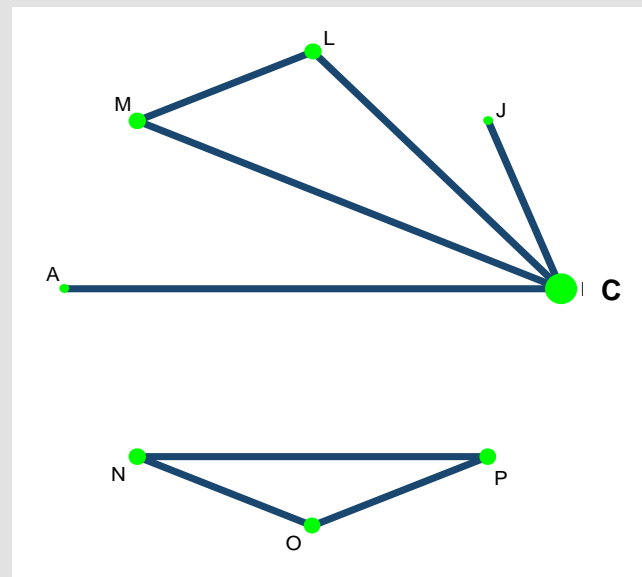
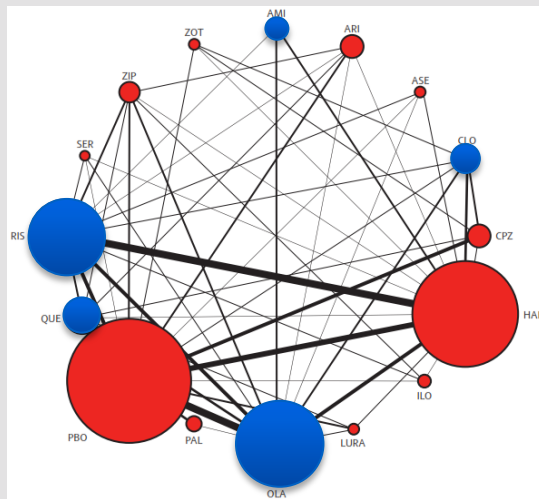
- **Pooling data across studies**
- **Meta-analysis (MA)**
- **Network meta-analysis (NMA)**
  - Indirect comparisons
  - Mixed treatment comparisons
- **Matched adjusted indirect comparisons (MAIC)**
- **Simulated Treatment Comparisons (STC)**

**Variety of methods available to synthesis a variety of data sources**

# EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS EXAMPLES



Meta-Analysis



Network Meta-Analysis



# AVAILABLE EVIDENCE (NETWORK) DETERMINES EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS APPROACH - EXAMPLES

## Comparator evidence

Direct H2H RCT(s)



No direct H2H RCTs, *but*  
Connected network of evidence  
to comparator RCTs



No direct H2H RCTs  
No connected network of  
evidence to comparator RCTs



## Range of Evidence Synthesis Methods

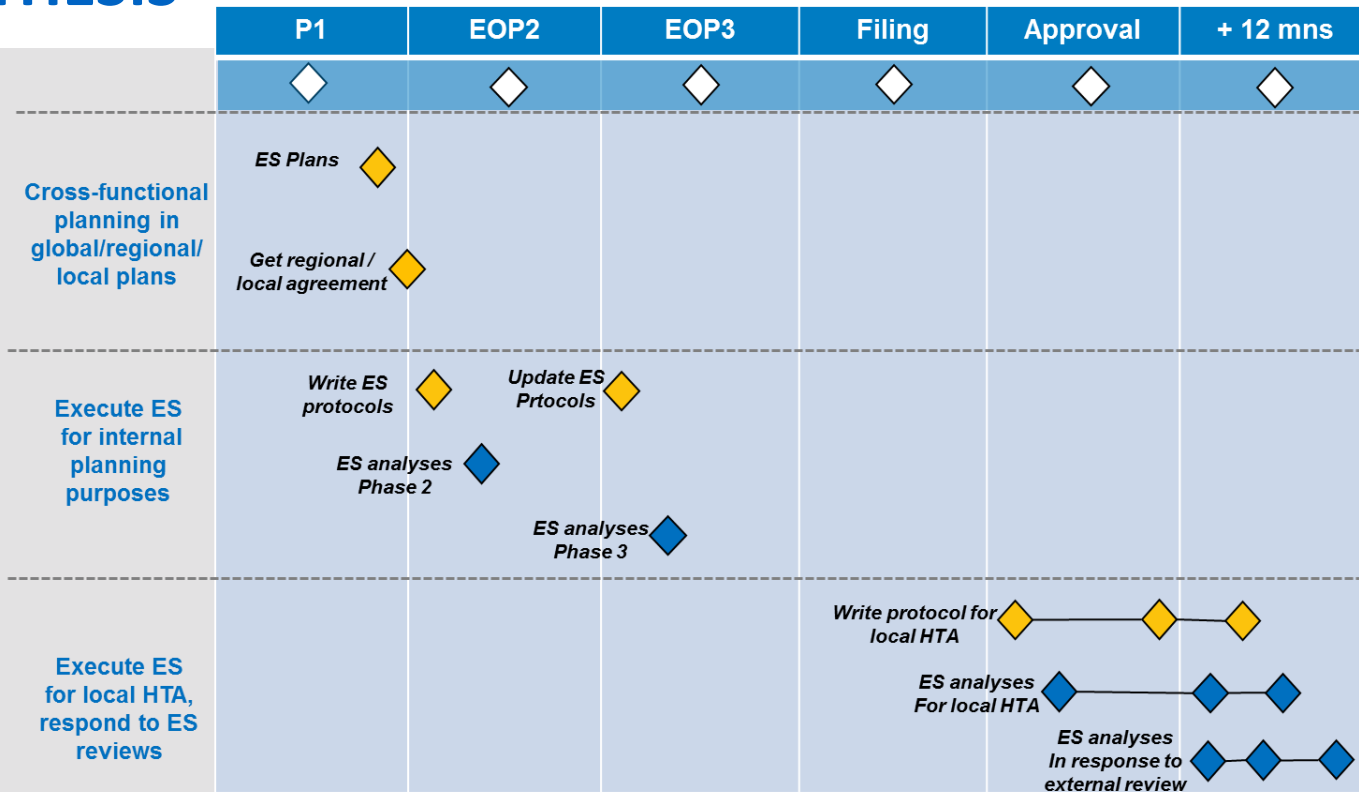
- Meta-analysis (MA)
- Network-Meta Analysis (NMA) with Mixed Treatment Comparison

- Network-Meta Analysis (NMA)
- Indirect Treatment Comparison (ITC)

- Matched Adjusted Indirect Comparison (MAIC)
- Model-based meta-analysis (MBMA)

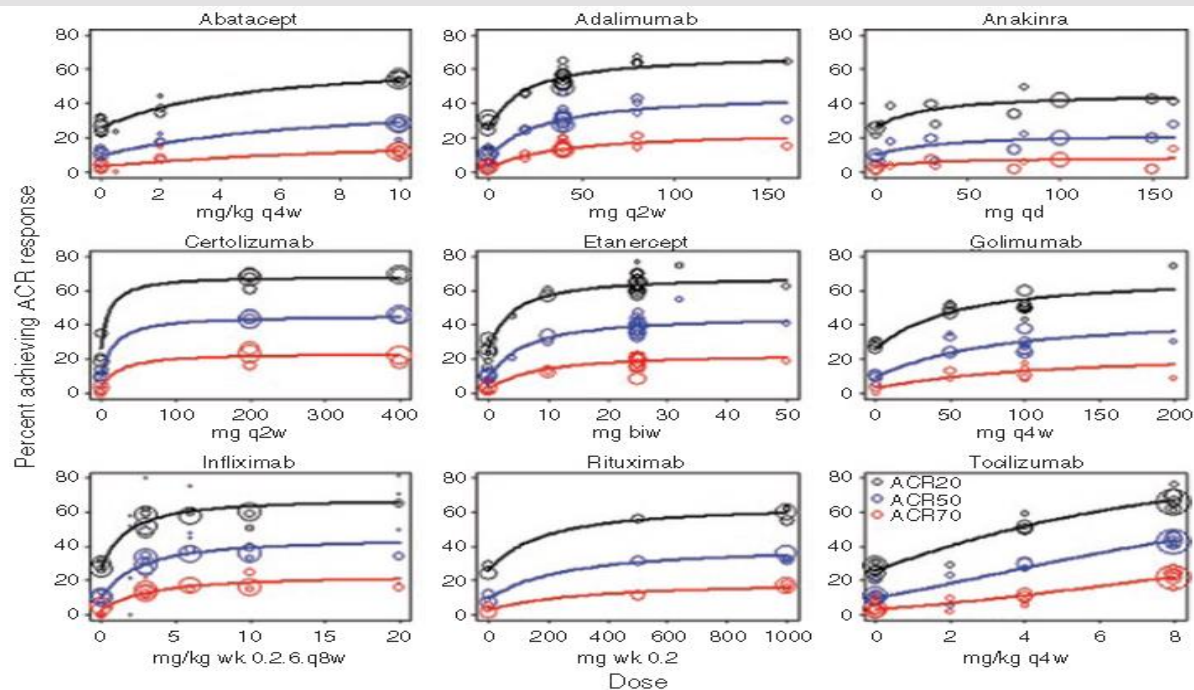
# USING EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS IN DRUG DEVELOPMENT

# EVIDENCE GENERATION AND TRIGGERS FOR EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS



Milestone  
 Plan  
 Deliverable

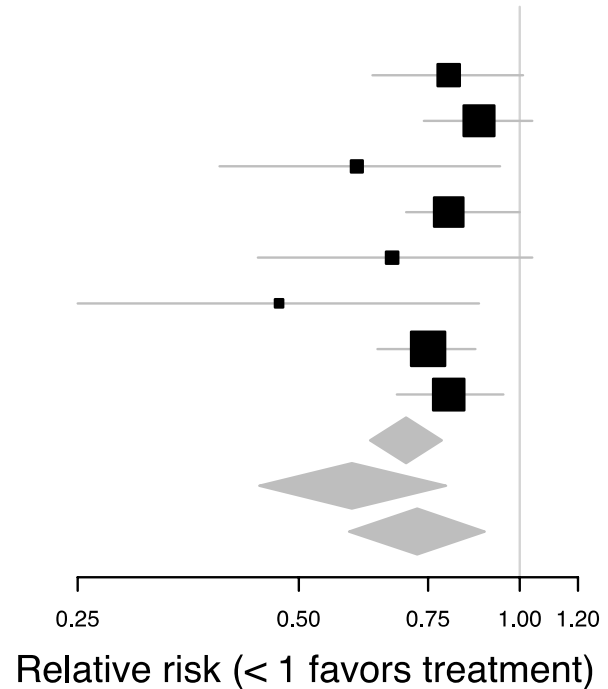
# EXAMPLE: PHASE 2A DOSE-RESPONSE RELATIONSHIPS



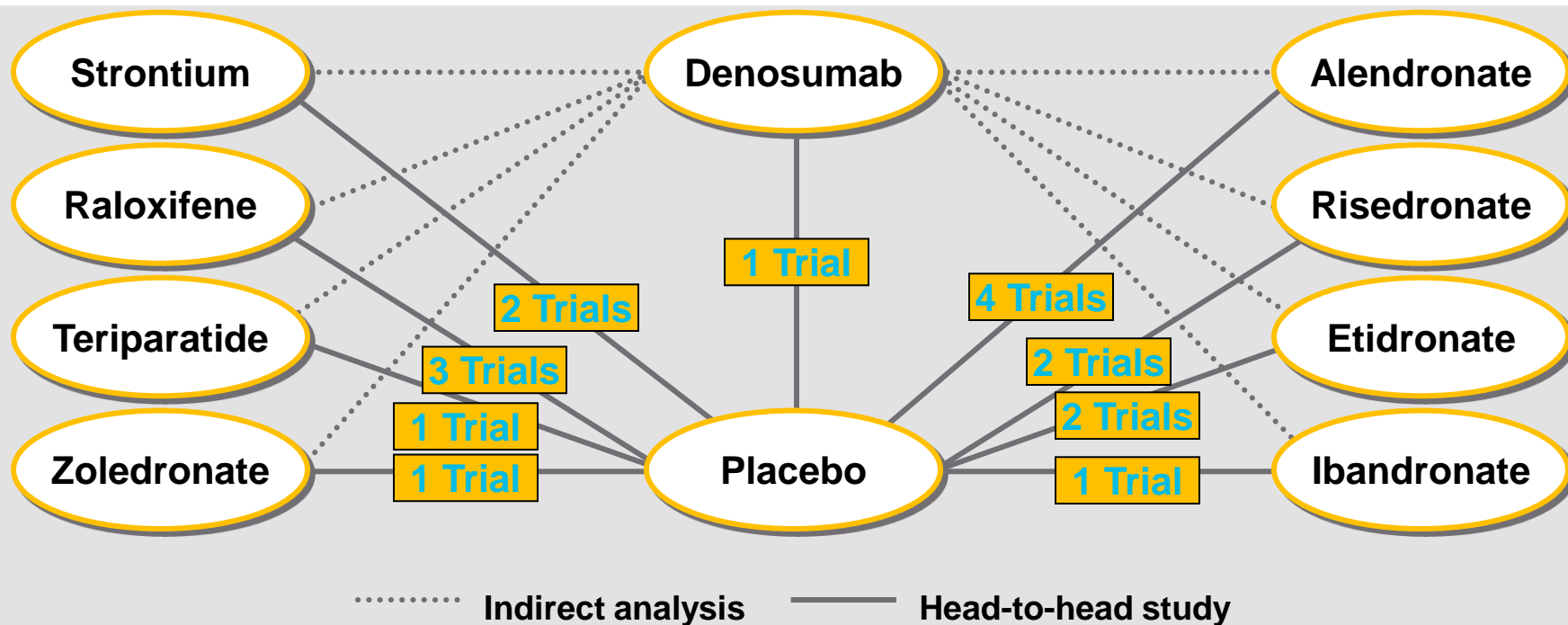
**A dose-response meta-analysis for quantifying relative efficacy of biologics in rheumatoid arthritis. Mandema et al.**

# EXAMPLE: SIMULATE COMPETITOR KEY TRIAL RESULTS DURING PHASE 2B

Treatment	Control
Drug 1	PBO
Drug 1	PBO
Drug 2	PBO
Drug 2	PBO
Drug 3	PBO
Drug 4	PBO
Drug 4	PBO
Drug 5	PBO
Competitor 1	PBO
Competitor 2	PBO
Competitor 2	PBO

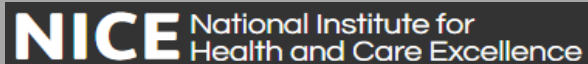


# EXAMPLE: HTA SUBMISSION



# EXAMPLE: RESPOND TO EXTERNAL REVIEWS

## Traditional HTA Assessments



## New Value Frameworks



# AMGEN'S HTA EVIDENCE BASED METHODS PLATFORM



# HTA AGENCIES REQUIRE ROBUST, EVIDENCE-BASED METHODS

## Scoping

- Frames evaluation of comparative effectiveness, with defined populations, interventions, comparators, outcomes and study design (PICOS)

## Evidence Selection

- Systematic Literature Review (protocol-driven)
- Inclusion/exclusion criteria aligned with PICOS criteria in scope

## Evidence Evaluation

- Assessment of quality of evidence
- Assessment of feasibility of evidence synthesis
- Assessment of alternative synthesis methods

## Evidence Synthesis and Interpretation

- Qualitative Analyses
- Quantitative Analyses  
eg - Network Meta-Analyses
- Evaluation of external validity
- Generalisability of evidence and results to local clinical practice

## ROLLING EVALUATION OF COMPARATIVE EFFECTIVENESS – P1 THROUGH TO FILING/LAUNCH

Comparative effectiveness evaluation	Timing	Methods for evidence selection/evaluation	Evidence synthesis	Informs
<b>Preliminary evaluation of comparators only</b> -little or no product data	Phase 1+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rapid Review - to identify key landmark comparator trials</li> </ul>	Preliminary ES e.g. NMA	Phase II/III RCT design / HTA planning
<b>Full evaluation vs new product</b> -Includes Phase II/III RCT data -New comparators	Phase II Updated at Phase III and at Filing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full Systematic Literature Review (SLR)</li> <li>Evidence synthesis Feasibility Assessment</li> </ul>	Full robust evidence synthesis	HTA planning / Cost Effectiveness model
<b>Customised evaluation</b> -to meet country-specific requirements -Updated comparators -Revised methods	Regulatory filing/ Launch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update Systematic Literature Review (SLR)</li> <li>Update review of Evidence synthesis Feasibility Assessment</li> </ul>	Tailored evidence synthesis to meet country requirements	HTA readiness

# STRATEGIC ROLE FOR STATISTICIANS

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- **Identify evidence gaps and ES needs**
- **Contribute to evidence generation strategy – populations, comparators, outcomes**
- **Contribute to systematic literature reviews**
- **Lead the ES feasibility assessment – which methods most appropriate**
- **Lead ES analyses – robust and fit for purpose**

# CONCLUSIONS

# EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS IS ESSENTIAL IN DRUG DEVELOPMENT

## **Put in place early a strategy for evidence synthesis for comparative effectiveness needs**

- A rolling process for evaluation of comparative effectiveness needs P1 through to post launch
- Standardized, robust methods and processes for evidence selection, evaluation and synthesis aligned with HTA requirements

## **Statisticians have a key role in developing the evidence synthesis strategy**

- Maximising evidence generation activities
- Planning and conducting robust evidence synthesis strategies and analyses

## **Evidence synthesis methodology is evolving and is becoming more complex**

- Opportunities to integrate real world data with randomised controlled trials
- Lots of assumptions, potential biases and limitations which need careful assessment

# REFERENCE: EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS TECHNICAL SERIES DOCUMENTS (NICE)

- TSD 1 [Introduction to evidence synthesis for decision making](#)
- TSD 2 [A general linear modelling framework for pair-wise and network meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials](#) (last updated Sept 2016)  
[WinBUGS system\(.odc\) files](#) (last updated Sept 2016)
- TSD 3 [Heterogeneity: subgroups, meta-regression, bias and bias-adjustment](#)  
  
[WinBUGS system\(.odc\) files](#)
- TSD 4 [Inconsistency in networks of evidence based on randomised controlled trials](#) (last updated April 2014)  
[WinBUGS system\(.odc\) files](#) (last updated March 2013)
- TSD 5 [Evidence synthesis in the baseline natural history model](#)  
[WinBUGS system\(.odc\) files](#)
- TSD 6 [Embedding evidence synthesis in probabilistic cost effectiveness analysis: software choices](#)
- TSD 7 [Evidence synthesis of treatment efficacy in decision making: a reviewer's checklist](#)  
This report refers to a checklist table, which can be downloaded in Word version [here](#)