SORA-TABA Workshop & DLSPH Biostatistics Research Day

Friday, June 15, 2018

Network Meta-Analysis

Friday	Dalla Lana School of Public Health
June 15, 2018	6th Floor Auditorium, HS610
9:00 – 5:00pm	155 College Street, Toronto

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Abstract: Comparative effectiveness usually involves evaluation of multiple interventions and may involve multiple outcomes measured at multiple times as well. Meta-analysis, whether of continuous or discrete outcomes, has in the past focused on summarizing the evidence comparing two treatments or classes of treatments. Recently, methods have been developed to integrate comparisons of multiple treatments into coherent models that allow simultaneous comparison of all treatments, combining the direct evidence from head-to-head studies with indirect evidence from trials that involve common comparators. The network models provide estimates of the relative effectiveness or harms of all included treatments, and a ranking with associated probability estimates. These methods depend on a crucial assumption that the direct and indirect evidence are compatible (consistency) and that treatments are mutually exchangeable across studies (transitivity). This course will introduce meta-analysis in the context of evidence-based science and will then outline the basic principles of network meta-analysis and assessment of the validity of its assumptions including the key role that potential effect modifiers play. Examples of its application to different types of outcomes, both efficacy and safety with discussion of incomplete data problems will be discussed.

Outline: The course is aimed at statisticians and other data analysts who will be designing, performing and interpreting network meta-analysis. The presentation will combine principles and intuition about the proper application of the methods as well as technical information about the models employed. Although most of the examples will be taken from healthcare, the methods are applicable in any discipline where meta-analysis is undertaken including education, psychology, economics, etc. Examples in each of these areas will be given and discussion is welcomed.

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For information regarding student and post-doc abstract submission for the poster presentation, please visit http://sorataba.org/sorataba-workshop-2018/

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