



# Regulatory considerations when supplementing *confirmatory* RCTs with non-randomised external data

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Take as read that **optimal planning** of an RCT must **leverage knowledge** of the whereabouts, the demographics, the prognosis, the participation rates, the adherence etc etc of the target population **from past trials or from epidemiology**.

Can I use external data to reduce the amount of patients / information to be collected in my prospective, confirmatory RCT?

## Is it acceptable to supplement RCTs with external data?



"It depends"

A lot is covered already in E9 / E10

Is it acceptable to supplement RCTs with external data?

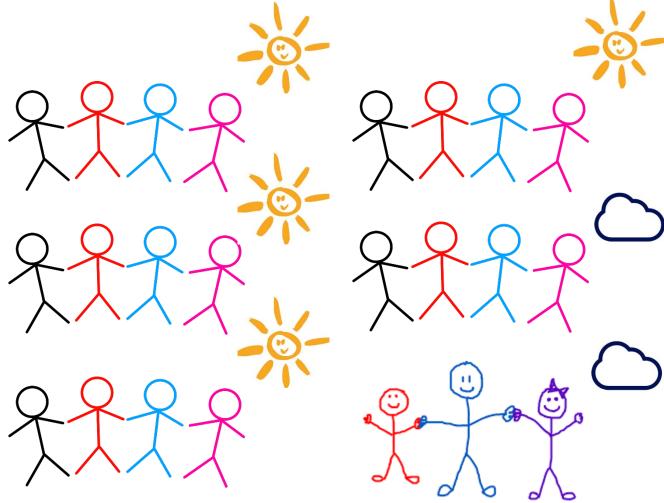




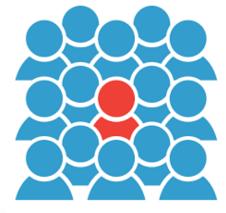


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## Why?





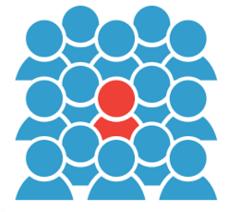








## Why?













## 'Efficiency'

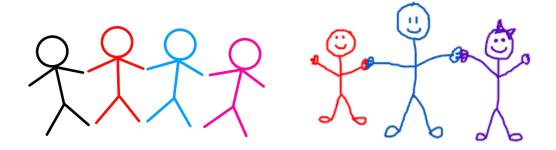


 "Doing the same with less effort / resource."

Is the quality of our evidence 'the same'?

 Quality of evidence is paramount: limited scope for trade off in 'quality' vs 'cost'.

#### What would I consider?



# BIAS

#### Methods based on covariates

- Matching
- Covariate adjustment
- Inverse probability weighting
- •

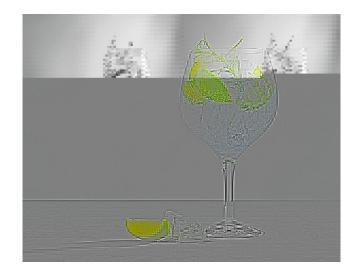
- None are guaranteed to work…
- How many covariates?

#### What would I consider?

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臨床試験のための統計的原則 補遺
臨床試験における estimand と感度分析
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### Methods based on similarity of observed data













#### Which external data source?

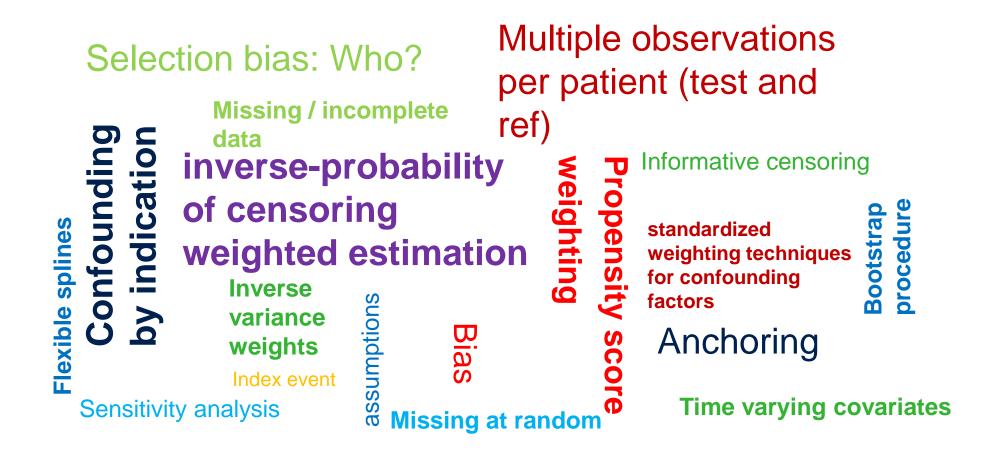




**Historical CTs** 

Data generated in clinical practice, RWD

### Example



## Validation: what 'variables' are important for constancy?



#### Conclusions

- Randomisation is (really, really) important, isn't it? Did something change?
- Is supplementing with external data conceivable? Perhaps.
- Commonly? No.
- Unless 'validated', stand-alone data from the randomised comparison should always be summarised, probably as "primary".
- The 'case-by-case' regulatory consideration has to be based on a transparent discussion of sources of bias and the primary and sensitivity analyses that will address these.