

ADDING VALUE AND EXPERTISE FOR SUCCESSFUL MARKET ACCESS



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Market Access - price & reimbursement

- Situation today within psychiatric and neurological diseases
 - Increased requirements for reimbursement of new drugs in Europe
 - Treatment guidelines often recommend generics as first choice





HTA agencies / payer* evidence requirements

To make rational decision on price and reimbursement, HTA / payers need evidence of:

★ Relative Effectiveness

the extent to which the drug does more good than harm compared to one or more treatment options in clinical practice

★ Cost-Effectiveness

 an assessment of relative effectiveness, with the added element of considering resource utilization and costs

* For simplicity the HTA (Health Technology Assessment) agency / payer is defined as the agency (agencies) making the decision on the price and reimbursement of a new drug



Agenda

- ★ The increased complexity of drug development
- How do we interact with HTA agencies and payers to negotiate price and reimbursement
- ★ Key areas where statisticians can add value
 - ★ Comparative Efficacy Research
 - ★ Epidemiological Studies
 - ★ Cost-Effectiveness
- ★ Recommendations

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The increased complexity of drug development





Market access alignment foundation

Europe	US								
Registration									
In EU, EMA approval does not guarantee market access	FDA approval guarantees US market access								
Pricing & reimbursement to negotiate use and place in therapy									
Mainly country central or regional authorities deciding on pricing and reimbursement	Price level set freely but private and state health plans [e.g. Medicare (65+), and Medicaid (low income)] determine formulary access, negotiate on price								
Market Access value platform									
Evidence-based with focus on comparative therapeutic value and cost-effectiveness	Evidence-based, but legally restricted to data in prescribing information								



Interacting with HTA agencies and payers

Regulatory submission dossier



HTA / payer submission dossier*

- Differences between countries in process, content & methodology requirements
- ★ Clinical value is key in all countries
 - Validity and results of relevant RCTs
 Individually and meta-analysis results
 - ★ Comparative efficacy/effectiveness
 - ★ Head-to-Head RCT
 - Indirect & mixed treatment comparisons
 - ★ Results of non-RCTs / observational trials
 - ★ Adverse events

Cost effectiveness

⁷ * Most HTA agencies / payers have a template with specified structure & format







Comparative efficacy

- Selection of comparator(s)
 - Variability between countries regarding views on appropriate comparator
 - Data from clinical practice is helpful in identifying relevant comparators
 - Comparison with off-label or unlicensed drugs is sometimes requested
 - ★ Sequence of therapy, 1st or 2nd line

Criteria for selection of comparator



Included countries: Australia, Baltic (Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia), Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Scotland, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, England & Wales, United States of America, Switzerland, China Mainland, Austria, South Korea, Taiwan, Brazil, Cuba, Slovak Republic, Thailand, México, South Africa, Egypt, Croatia, Slovenia, Colombia



Use a systematic literature review to identify relevant RCTs for relevant comparators

- ★ Define research protocol
 - ★ Objective
 - ★ Population
 - ★ Inclusion and exclusion of trials
 - ★ Any sub-populations of interest
 - ★ Comparators
 - ★ Endpoints
 - ★ Data source (e.g. obs, Ismeans)
 - ★ Limitations and biases
- ★ Search
- ★ Review
- Data extraction

- ★ Incomplete block design
 - ★ (mean, sd, n) per study & treatment
 - Two-way ANOVA w/ sparse data and known (but varying) variance

	Treatment									
Study	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G			
1	Х,Х,Х	X,X,X								
2		X,X,X	X,X,X	Х,Х,Х						
3	Х,Х,Х		X,X,X							
4	Х,Х,Х	X,X,X	X,X,X							
5	Х,Х,Х	X,X,X		Х,Х,Х						
6		X,X,X	X,X,X							
7	Х,Х,Х		X,X,X							
8	Х,Х,Х	X,X,X	X,X,X							
9			X,X,X	Х,Х,Х	X,X,X					
10						X,X,X	X,X,X			
11			Х,Х,Х		Х,Х,Х					
12				Х,Х,Х	X,X,X	X,X,X				



Comparative efficacy: Direct comparison

- ★ Direct comparison of AvB
 - ★ Meta-analysis of head-to-head trials
 - ★ Similarity in trials e.g. design, treatment/dose, population, stat method ...
 - Heterogeneity in treatment effects (i.e. variability between trials results)
 - ★ Choice of stat model: Assume $Y_{i,t}$ ~N ($\mu_{i,t}$, $\sigma_{i,t}$ ²), study i and treatment t
 - **★** Fixed effect model: $\mu_{i,t} = \alpha_i + \beta_t$
 - **★** Random effect model: $\mu_{i,t} = \alpha_i + \beta_t + \varepsilon_{i,t}$, $\varepsilon_{i,t} \sim N$ (0, τ^2)





Comparative efficacy: Indirect comparison

- ★ Indirect comparison of AvB
 - ★ Two meta-analysis of AvC trials and BvC trials
 - ★ Usual issues with meta-analysis still applies
 - ★ Indirect $(d_{ab}) = d_{ac} d_{bc}$





Comparative efficacy: Mixed treatment comparison

- ★ Mixed treatment comparison / network meta-analysis
 - Combined estimate of direct and indirect treatment difference from 2-arm trials (AvB, AvC, BvC) and 3-arm trials (AvBvC)
 - ★ Usual issues with meta-analysis still applies
 - Underlying assumption that direct (d_{ab}) & indirect (d_{ac} d_{bc}) effects are consistent in 2-arm trials





Extending to general networks with several comparators

ISPOR Indirect Treatment Comparisons Good Research Practices Task Force



International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR): https://www.ispor.org/workpaper/interpreting-indirect-treatment-comparison-and-network-meta-analysis-studies-for-decision-making.pdf



Comparative efficacy – points to consider

- ★ Is direct evidence from RCTs always more realiable?
- ★ Direct evidence should always be presented
- ★ Discuss similarity in trials going into meta-analyses
- Investigate heterogeneity
 - ★ Presence of effect modifiers
 - Could be explained by adjusting for study level baseline characterics
 - Use random effect model to provide more conservative results in the presence of between study variability in treatment effects
- Examine inconsistency between direct and indirect effect in close loops
 - Can it be explained by an extreme observation in one trial?
 - ★ Differences in treatment effect modifiers between comparisons?



Comparative efficacy - treatment effects in sub-groups

- ★ Requirement varies considerably between HTA agencies / payers
- ★ Germany (IQWiG / G-BA)
 - Require evaluation by subgroup and impose reimbursement restrictions based on disease or patients characteristics
 - ★ Dossier should discuss, for each RCT, results with interaction test p<0.2
- ★ UK (NICE)
 - Require evaluation of relevant sub-groups of patients in which clinical and costeffectiveness may differ to overall population
- ★ Sweden (TLV)
 - ★ Evaluation in the entire licensed indication; rarely subgroup discussions



Example: Selincro® (nalmefene)

- ★ Selincro (nalmefene) approved by EMA in 2013
 - Label: Reduction of alcohol consumption in adult patients with alcohol dependence who have a high drinking risk level (according to WHO), without physical withdrawal symptoms and who do not require immediate detoxification
 - Three double-blind RCTs: nalmefene vs placebo; + psychosocial support
 - Co-primary endpoints: Change in Total Alc Cons (g/day) & Heavy Drinking Days
- ★ Two indications recognised in EMA guideline on alcohol dependence
 - ★ Full abstinence goal (relapse prevention after detoxification)
 - ★ Several drugs approved e.g. naltrexone, acamprosate
 - Intermediate harm reduction goal (without prior detoxification)
 - ★ Selincro is currently the only drug approved



Example: Selincro® (nalmefene)

UK (NICE)

- ★ Systematic literature review
 - ★ Research protocol, data extraction ..
- Psychosocial support accepted as appropriate comparator
 - Clinical evidence based on head-to-head RCTs
- Meta-analysis of confirmatory trials, with/without supportive trials identified
- NICE concluded that the clinical effectiveness evidence was relevant to clinical practice in England

Germany (IQWiG / G-BA)

- ★ Systematic literature review
 - ★ Research protocol, data extraction ..
- G-BA specified naltrexone as the appropriate comparator
 - ★ No head-to-head RCTs available
- Indirect comparison
 - Two meta-analysis of nalmefene vs placebo, and naltrexone vs placebo trials
 - Very limited relevant naltrexone trials identified as 'off-label' setting
- ✗ IQWiG concluded no added benefit proven



Example: Selincro® (nalmefene) - Germany (G-BA)

Ergebnis des Indirekten Vergleichs

Model	Group by Prp.	Study	Outcome	Statistics for each study			Sample size				Hedges's g and 95% Cl				
				Hedges's g	Standard error	Lower limit	Upper limit	p-Value	Active	Placebo					
	NMF	NMF02b	HDD	-0,427	0,198	-0,815	-0,039	0,0308	62	44	1 -		-1	T	
	NMF	NMF04b	HDD	-0,373	0,144	-0,655	-0,091	0,0096	85	114		-+			
	NMF	NMF05b	HDD	-0,274	0,137	-0,542	-0,005	0,0456	103	111					
	NMF	NMF06b	HDD	-0,301	0,202	-0,698	0,095	0,1365	102	32			_		
Fixed	NMF			-0,336	0,081	-0,495	-0,176	0,0000	352	301			-		
Random	NMF			-0,336	0,081	-0,495	-0,176	0,0000	352	301			-		
	NTX	NTX04	DD%, HDD%	-0,071	0,216	-0,494	0,351	0,7413	31	32				-	
	NTX	NTX51	HDD%	-0,258	0,241	-0,730	0,213	0,2831	34	34				à.	
Fixed	NTX			-0,155	0,161	-0,469	0,160	0,3360	65	66			-+-		
Random	NTX			-0,155	0,161	-0,469	0,160	0,3360	65	66		<u> </u>	-+-		
											-1,00	-0,50	0,00	0,50	1,00

https://www.g-ba.de/downloads/92-975-614/2014-08-28 Modul4A Nalmefen.pdf



Favours Placebo

Favours Active

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Example: Selincro® (nalmefene) - Germany (G-BA)

Mote Analyse	Effekts	stärke	Hetero- genität	Indirekter Vergleich Nalmefen vs Naltrexon				
Wieta-Anaryse	Hedges' g ± SE	p-Wert [95 % KI]	I ² p-Wert	Hedges' g [95 % KI]	p-Wert			
Nalmefen vs Placebo	-0,336 ± 0,081	p<0,001 [-0,495; -0,176]	0,0% p=0,916	-0,181	p=0.314			
Naltrexon vs Placebo	-0,155 ±0,161	p=0,336 [-0,469; 0,160]	0,0% p=0,562	[-0,534; 0,172]	p 0,314			
SE: Standardfehler, KI: Konfidenzintervall								







Use of epidemiological studies in HTA / payer interactions

- Mapping treatment practices in routine care and unmet need
- Link between clinical endpoints (short-term) and ressource utilization / patients-related outcomes (long-term)
- Generating data for the cost-effectiveness model by calculating healthcare resource use according to health state in the population of interest
- Comparative effectiveness
- Observational data; assignment to treatment not randomised
 - Likely imbalance in observed and unobserved baseline characteristics
 - Handling of observed confounders: regression model, stratification, matching, propensity score







Cost-effectiveness

- ★ Cost-effectiveness based on:
 - relative efficacy/effectiveness and resource utilization and costs
- ★ Often requires an element of modelling
- Cost-effectiveness based on data from multiple sources
 - Extrapolate from short-term trial data to long-term outcomes
 - Investigate cost-effectiveness by patient subgroups
 - Explore sensitivity of results to changes in assumptions or inputs





Example: Selincro® - Cost-effectiveness model NICE



*At each cycle, patients in the controlled drinking state could relapse into the drinking state they were in at the start of the model (high or very high drinking risk levels states in the short-term phase of the model), and hence to the original treatment they were successful with.

²⁵ http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/4/9/e005376.full



Example: Selincro® - Cost-effectiveness model NICE

- ★ Short-term phase (first year): RCT data used for transition probabilities
- Long-term phase (years 2–5): Cycle length of 1 year based on the availability of reliable clinical data particularly with regard to the maintenance of effect and probability of relapse to heavy drinking
- Risk of experiencing alcohol-attributable harmful events

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Personal Risk Disease(i)<sub>(T1)</sub>Patient<sub>(z)</sub>
= General Population Risk Disease(i) * RRDisease(i)(x_{T1})Patient<sub>(z)</sub>
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 $RRDisease(i)(x_{T1})Patient_{(z)}$ is the relative risk of disease (i) given an alcohol consumption at time T₁ of *x* grams for a Patient *z* with alcohol dependence, versus general population.







Recommendations

- ★ Statisticians should be involved early in the market access strategy to
 - ★ Plan and perform comparative efficacy research
 - Ensure proper design and analysis of epidemiological studies
 - Provide input and challenge the many assumptions / extrapolations in cost-effectiveness modelling
- ★ Start early to avoid delays
- ★ Take part in re-negotiation process

