# **Overview of Vaccine Efficacy and Vaccine Effectiveness**



Shelly McNeil, MD Canadian Center for Vaccinology Dalhousie University Halifax, Nova Scotia Canada

# **Efficacy vs Effectiveness**

- Vaccine efficacy- % reduction in disease incidence in a vaccinated group compared to an unvaccinated group under optimal conditions (eg RCT)
  - Typically use objective outcomes- eg labconfirmed influenza
  - designed to maximize internal validity (by randomization and allocation concealment)
  - often at the expense of generalizability



# Vaccine effectiveness- ability of vaccine to prevent outcomes of interest in the "real world"

- Primary care settings
- Less stringent eligibility
- Assessment of relevant health outcomes
- Clinically relevant treatment selection and followup duration
- Assessment of relevant adverse events
- Adequate sample size to detect clinically relevant
  differences

Intention to treat analysis

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Agency for Healthcare Research and Policy, US Dept HHS, 2006

# Why monitor vaccine effectiveness?





Demonstrating need (Burden of disease) and proving benefit (Vaccine effectiveness) is critical to promote immunization, sustain uptake, and stimulate development of better vaccines





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 Where the balance rests depends upon understanding the proportion of the disease burden that is vaccine preventable
 = VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS

> At any vaccine cost, the greater the burden of disease and the greater the proportion that is vaccine preventable, the more
>  Cost effective a program will be

# Factors impacting vaccine effectiveness

#### Host factors

Age

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- Comorbidity- including frailty/function
  - Prior exposure
- Time since vaccination

### Vaccine characteristics

- Mode of delivery
- Live vs inactivated
- Vaccine composition- addition of adjuvant

Match to circulating strains

# Optimal VE Data to inform decisionmaking

- Overall and type/subtype specific (including B-lineages)
- By age group
- Against non-severe and severe outcomes
- In specific at-risk/target populations
- By vaccine type- are new vaccines really better?

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Real-time- throughout season- may predict drift, circulating mismatched strains, duration of protection

# **Define Outcome- what is important?**

### ILI/ARI

- Serious outcomes- hospitalization +/- death, dependence
- Lab-confirmed influenza

 Careful attention/adherence to case definition – specificity more important than sensitivity!



# Measuring Vaccine Effectiveness-Data needs

- Surveillance data for outcome of interest (case ascertainment)
  - Enhance routine testing for influenza!
- Immunization data:
  - Vaccinated?
  - When? (in relation to onset of disease)
  - Which vaccine?



Clinical data: age, gender, comorbidity
 (including pregnancy), functional status,
 course and outcome

# The problem of BIAS- how do vaccinated and unvaccinated people differ?

 Bias is any factor independently associated with risk of disease and vaccination status

 Healthy user bias- persons more likely to be vaccinated are less likely to develop disease- OVER-estimates VE

 Frailty bias- persons more likely to be vaccinated (frail elderly in LTCF) are more likely to experience adverse influenza outcomes- UNDER-estimates VE



# **Observational methods for estimating vaccine effectiveness**

Cohort studies

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- Case-control studies ("test-negative" case control)
- Household contact studies
- Screening method- compare proportion of cases vaccinated to proportion of a comparable group in the population who are vaccinated – useful if vaccination status is only known in people with the outcome- need to know population coverage rates

# So... How effective are influenza **Vaccines??** (Osterholm, Lancet ID Jan 2012)

Treatment group (n/N) Control group (n/N)

A Adults	s 18-65y	(TIV)
Ohmit (2006) <sup>24</sup>	10/522	16/206
Ohmit (2008) <sup>25</sup>	13/867	6/338

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Beran (2009) <sup>26</sup>	28/4137	18/2066
Beran (2009) <sup>27</sup>	63/5103	82/2549
Monto (2009) <sup>28</sup>	28/813	35/325
Jackson (2010) <sup>21</sup>	19/1706	38/1725
Jackson (2010) <sup>21</sup>	11/2011	22/2043
Frey (2010) <sup>29</sup>	49/3638	140/3843
Pooled	221/18797	357/13095



#### Children 6mos-7y (LAIV) В

Belshe (1998) <sup>32</sup>	14/1070	94/532
Belshe (2000) <sup>33</sup>	15/917	56/441
Vesikari (2006) <sup>34</sup>	23/1059	97/725
Vesikari (2006) <sup>34</sup>	31/658	148/461
Tam (2007) <sup>35</sup>	98/1900	204/1274
Tam (2007) <sup>35</sup>	26/503	59/494
Lum (2010) <sup>36</sup>	28/819	39/413
Pooled	235/6926	667/4340



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# What about the elderly? (Cochrane Library, Feb. 2010)

- Only 1 RCT identified- underpowered to assess efficacy
- Point estimates difficult to interpret due to uncontrolled bias
- No conclusion could be drawn





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Nichol et al. NEJM Oct 2007



В





# Conclusions

Monitoring vaccine effectiveness is critical to:

- Optimize use of limited resources
- Demonstrate impact of vaccine on health outcomes (justify cost)
- Optimize vaccine uptake
- Stimulate development of improved vaccines



# **Thank you!**



