Meta-analysis of clinical prediction models

Incorporating known univariable coefficients when analyzing multivariable data

T. Debray H. Koffijberg D. Lu Y. Vergouwe E.W. Steyerberg K.G.M. Moons





Introduction

- Multivariable data analysis
- Logistic regression modeling
- Regression coefficients and odds ratios

Practical example : prediction of peri-operative mortality after elective abdominal aortic aneurysm surgery (AAA) – IPD: 238 patients including 18 deaths



Introduction

Multivariable Data Analysis of AAA



95% CI log(OR)







95% CIAdjOR











Improving Generalization

- Updating prediction models
 - Combines IPD with prior knowledge
 - Improves external validity
 - May re-estimate slope, regression coefficient or extend the model





Adaptation Methods

The Adaptation method (Steyerberg/Greenland)

- Re-estimates a multivariable coefficient
- Incorporates known univariable coefficients
- Based on change from uni- to multivariable coefficient

The Correlation-Adjusted Adaptation method

- Accounts for correlations
- Applies shrinkage



Adaptation Methods

95% CI of log(OR)

- No updating
- Adaptation method (univariable evidence from 15 studies)
- Corr-Adj Adapt method (univariable evidence from 15 studies)





Simulation Study

- Mean Squared Error: accuracy & stability of estimated regression coefficients
- 95% Confidence Interval: validity of estimated uncertainty
- Performance with homogeneous and heterogeneous evidence



www.tomcartoon.be



Simulation Study

No updating
Adaptation method

Corr-Adj Adapt method



Homogeneous evidence (IPD + 4 lit. studies of 500 patients each)



Simulation Study

No updating

Adaptation method

Corr-Adj Adapt method



Heterogeneous evidence (IPD + 4 lit. studies of 500 patients each)



Conclusion

Bias of estimated regression coefficients:

- largest when external evidence ignored
- decreases but remains when large IPD
- smallest when external evidence incorporated (that is not strongly heterogeneous)
 - Correlation-Adjusted Adaptation method: superior performance
 - Steyerberg/Greenland Adaptation method: simpler to apply