

# Signal Detection using TreeScan with Drug Classes: Pilot Projects in Sentinel

Judith C. Maro<sup>1</sup>, Michael D. Nguyen<sup>2</sup>, Rima Izem<sup>2</sup>, Ya-Hui Hsueh<sup>2</sup>, Inna Dashevsky<sup>1</sup>, Austin Cosgrove<sup>1</sup>, S. Christopher Jones<sup>2</sup>, Jacqueline M. Major<sup>2</sup>, Esther H. Zhou<sup>2</sup>, Elande Baro<sup>2</sup>, Joshua J. Gagne<sup>3</sup>, Shirley V. Wang<sup>3</sup> and Martin Kulldorff<sup>3</sup>

**1.** Harvard Medical School and Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare Institute, Boston, MA;

2. Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, MD;

3. Division of Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacoeconomics, Department of Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

#### **Disclosures**



- The authors have the following conflicts of interest to disclose:
  - JJG has received salary support from grants from Eli Lilly and Company and Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation to the Brigham and Women's Hospital and is a consultant to Aetion, Inc and Optum, Inc. all for unrelated work.
  - SVW is a consultant to Aetion, Inc.
- This work was supported by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Contract number HHSF223201400030I
- This presentation reflects the views of the authors and not necessarily those of the U.S. FDA.

## **Tree-Based Scan Statistics are Enabled by:**



- A signal detection / data-mining method
- Scans electronic health outcome data that are grouped into hierarchical tree structures
- Automatically adjusts for multiple hypothesis testing



http://www.treescan.org

# **Multi-Level Clinical Classification System Tree**





#### **Data Source**



- 3 Data Partners in Sentinel Distributed Database
  - Represents ~35% of the Overall Sentinel Distributed Database
  - Data from 2000 to Latest Available (between 2016-2017)



# **Three Medical Product Study Classes (Test Cases)**



- Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives
  - Small Sample Size
  - Medically-attended procedures present as point exposures
- Statins
  - Large Sample Size
  - Established Safety Record
- Selected Antibiotics
  - Very Large Sample Size
  - Therapeutic administered in an urgent treatment situation

## **Universal Self-Controlled Study Design Diagram**





## **Conditional Tree-Temporal Scan Statistic**



Under the null hypothesis, there is no unusual clustering of events within any node or clinically-related group during any time interval.

Under the alternative hypothesis, there is at least one node or clinically-related group of the tree for which there is a temporal cluster of events during some time interval.





#### Results

#### **Intrauterine Device (IUD) Cohort Attrition**





## **All Intrauterine Device Primary Results**



Node Name	Node ID	Node Outcomes	Node Outcomes in Risk Window	RW Start	RW End	Relative Risk	P Value
Female genital pain and other							
symptoms	10030901	612	115	1	4	2.74	0.0001
Female genital symptoms NOS	6259	576	112	1	4	2.85	0.0001
Other complications of internal prosthetic device; implant; and graft	16100103	114	30	1	4	4.09	0.0003
Complication NEC due to GU device	99676	106	29	1	4	4.31	0.0002
Other specified non-inflammatory disorders of vagina	6238	254	200	2	29	3.21	0.0016

These "alerts" are not unexpected and reflect routine but rare complications of IUD insertions.

#### **Simvastatin Cohort Attrition**





## **Simvastatin Primary Results**



			Node				
Node	Node	Node	Outcomes in	RW	RW	Relative	Р
Name	ID	Outcomes	Risk Window	Start	End	Risk	Value
Unstable angina (intermediate coronary syndrome)	07020402	2269	523	1	7	1.68	0.0001
Intermediate Coronary Syndrome	4111	2269	523	1	7	1.68	0.0001
Angina Pectoris	07020401	1408	377	1	8	1.77	0.0001
Angina Pectoris NEC & NOS	4139	1353	360	1	8	1.76	0.0001
Cardiac arrest and ventricular fibrillation	07021000	459	160	44	56	1.95	0.0006
Cardiac Arrest	4275	307	106	47	56	2.61	0.0001
Disorders of lipid metabolism	03060000	7449	2269	1	13	1.22	0.0001
Other forms of chronic heart disease	07020405	5447	1676	1	13	1.24	0.0001
Hemorrhage or hematoma complicating a procedure	16100205	990	227	1	7	1.67	0.0002
Hematoma Complicating a Procedure	99812	451	113	1	6	2.25	0.0001
Conditions associated with dizziness or vertigo	06080200	4633	628	1	5	1.3	0.0011
Dizziness & Giddiness	7804	4210	578	1	5	1.32	0.0006
Respiratory failure	08060100	3063	804	42	54	1.29	0.0031
Surgical Complication-Peripheral Vascular	9972	121	40	1	6	3.32	0.0099
Coronary atherosclerosis	07020404	6247	1243	1	8	1.2	0.0100
Lower extremity aneurysm	4423	82	28	1	5	4.29	0.0100

#### **Antibiotic Results**



Name	Exposure Cohort	Analytic Dataset	Alerts at 0.01
Azithromycin	7,500,871 episodes	1,412,160 events	174 alerts
Ciprofloxacin	3,706,774 episodes	1,206,543 events	209 alerts
Levofloxacin	1,506,530 episodes	638,717 events	72 alerts

• Overwhelmed by signs and symptoms followed by individuals with profiles for acute organ failure, septic shock, and other acute traumatic events.

## Limitations



- Self Controlled Design:
  - Depends on onset times in the data model
  - May capture alerts due to signs and symptoms related to drug indications
  - Cannot distinguish sustained elevated risk of outcome
  - Is vulnerable to time-varying confounding
- Analytic Limitations:
  - Acute outcome events only with fixed follow-up

# **Summary**



- We empirically tested tree-temporal scan statistics in 3 different drug classes.
- Self-controlled TreeScan methods performed as expected:
  - Best when applied to stable patients (eg, contraceptives, vaccines)
  - Moderate performance for statins; Better performance possible with more careful exclusion criteria for recently hospitalized / unstable patients
  - Poor performance for acutely ill, unstable patients
- New propensity score based TreeScan may better account for these conditions (more unstable patient populations)
  - Next Up: Shirley Wang presents "Data mining for adverse drug events with a propensity score matched tree-based scan statistic"

# **Additional Acknowledgements**



#### **Sentinel Operations Center**

- Meighan Rogers-Driscoll
- David Cole
- Ella Pestine
- Many thanks are due to Data
  Partners who provided data
  used in the analysis

#### Food & Drug Administration (FDA)

Rita Ouellet-Hellstrom