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Accounting for variable adherence and sexual risk behavior patterns in the design and analysis of PrEP trials, and when modeling the impact of PrEP implementation

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New HIV prevention routes promising

Å Oral and topical PrEP: mixed results

Å Main explanations for variability in effects:¹

- ï Statistical chance (unlikely)
- ï Biological paths (mostly unclear)
- ï Non-adherence (most plausible)

Å Modeling paper suggests even more complex situation²

Å Implications possibly relevant for current discussions

1- Baeten e.a., Annu Rev Med, 2013;64:219-32; 2- de Bruin e.a, PLoS one, 2012; 7(8):e44029



Goals talk

Å Explain the key concepts model paper. Steps:

1. Factors that influence absolute risk (AR)..
2. ..also influence on relative risk (RR) in trials..
3. ..and the adherence - RR relationship

Å Apply cumulative probability model to MB trial data:

- ï True method effectiveness 50% per-contact risk reduction
- ï Per-contact infection risk of $.003^1$ with HIV+ partner
- ï Per-contact risk reduction condom use $80\%^2$

Å Possible implications for trial design, analyses and models

1- Boily e.a., Lancet Infect Dis, 2009;9:118-29; 2- Weller e.a., Cochrane Syst Rev, 2002: CD003255.



(1) Coverage = adherence percentage?

HIV treatment study:

Å Adherence = ($\# \text{ pills taken} / \# \text{ pills prescribed}$) * 100

Å 70 pills taken in 100 days for QD = 70% adherence

Å Represents 30 'uncovered days' (under certain assumptions)

Å PrEP trial (examples for microbicide)

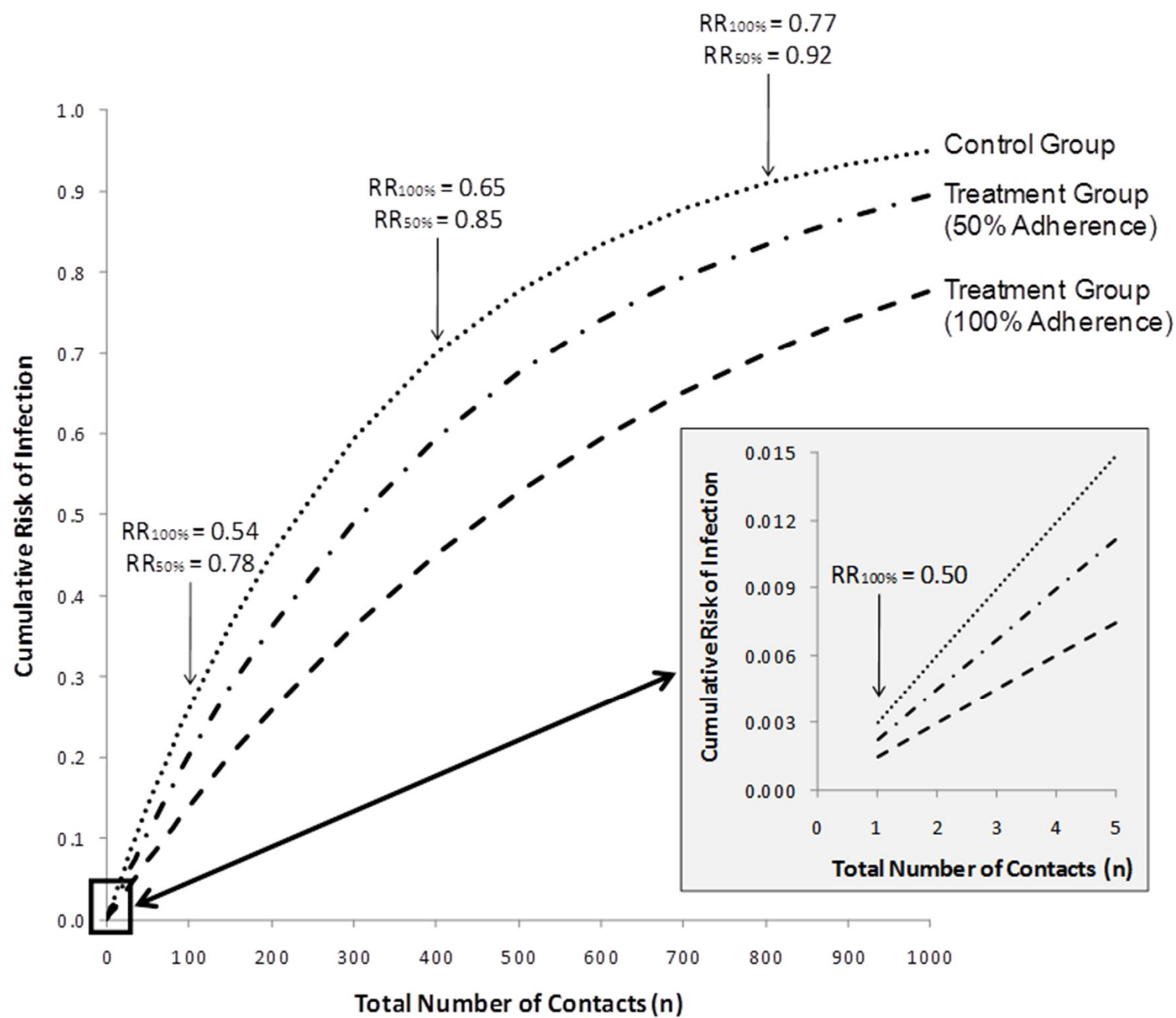
Å Adherence = ($\# \text{ doses inserted} / \# \text{ contacts}$) * 100

Å 70% over 100 days can be 30/100 or 3/10 'uncovered' contacts

Å Control for $\#$ of contacts when predicting AR infection

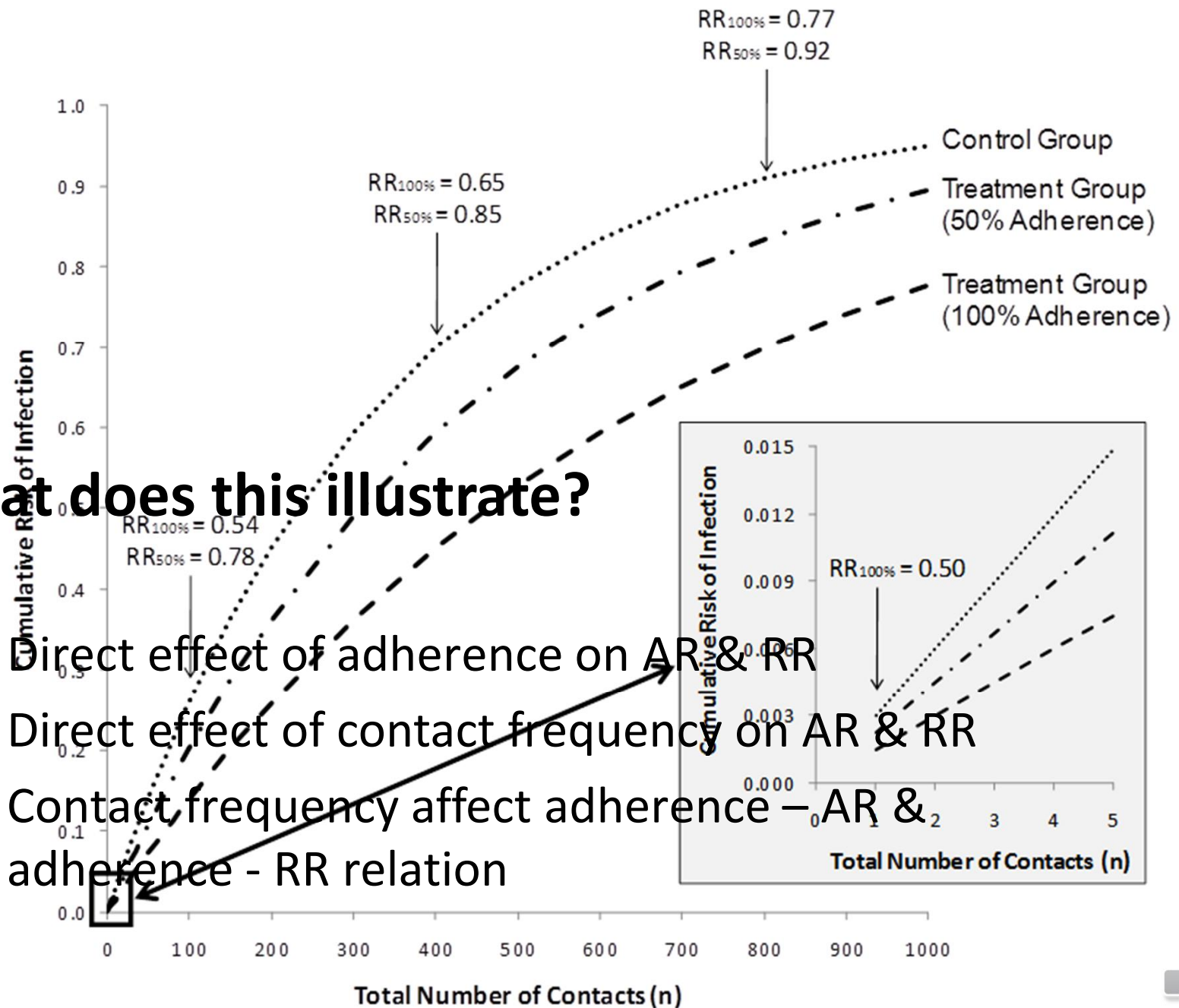
Å Relevant in RCTs, i.e. does it carry over to relative risk?





What does this illustrate?

1. Direct effect of adherence on AR & RR
2. Direct effect of contact frequency on AR & RR
3. Contact frequency affect adherence – AR & adherence - RR relation



(2) Riskiness of the contact

Å Evident that riskiness of a contact influences AR
 i Vaginal/anal, STD, treatment coverage area, condom use

Å Riskiness effect on RR and adherence-RR relation?

Number contacts	Adh 50%, no condom	Adh 50%, condom	Adh 100%, no condom	Adh 100%, condom	Ratio 50/100 no condom	Ratio 50/100 condom
400	0.85	0.77	0.65	0.53	1.31	1.45

Å Separate adherence % for high-risk & low-risk encounters



(3) Number of partners

Å In real life not a single partner, and the more partners, the larger the probability of contact with an HIV+ partner

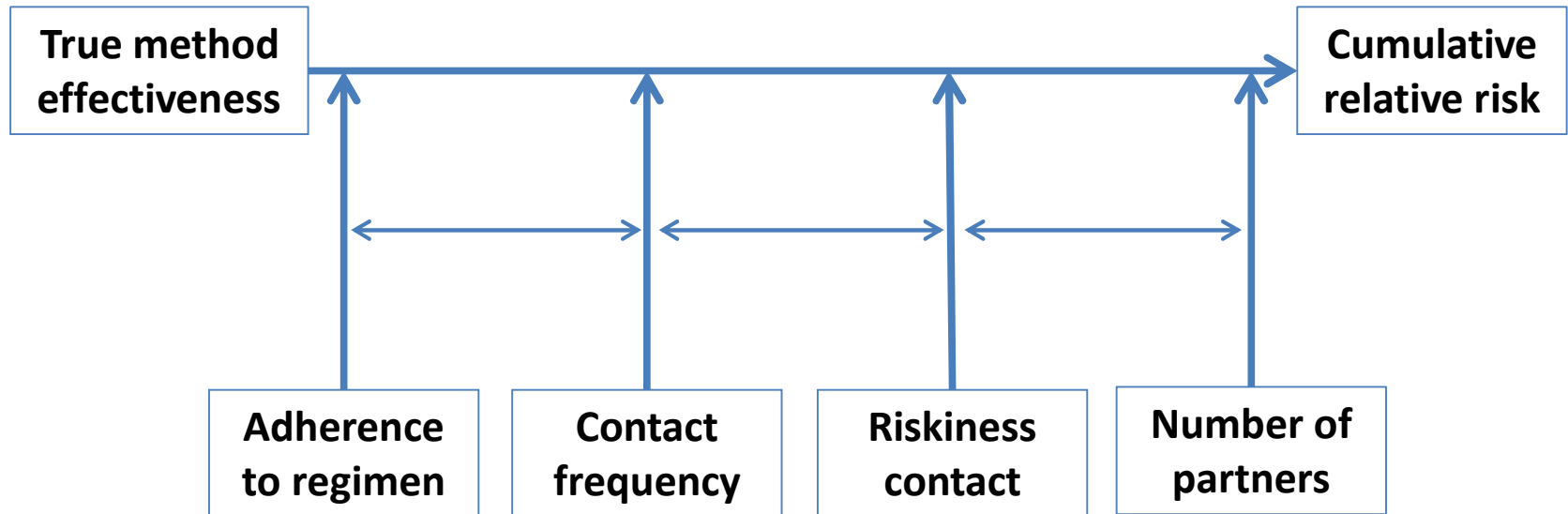
	Control	AR + Adh 50%	AR + Adh 100%	RR+ Adh 50%	RR + Adh 100%	Ratio 50/ 100%
1p * 400c	0.14	0.12	0.09	0.65	0.85	1.31
10p * 40c	0.21	0.16	0.11	0.54	0.78	1.44

p = partner * c = contacts = 400

Å AR, RR and adherence—RR relation depends on # partners



All these factors simultaneously..



Å ...influence absolute and relative risks

Å ...influence the relationship adherence → relative risk

Å ...obscure the true method effectiveness (TME) in trials



Implications and illustrations

Å Role of (dominant) sexual behavior patterns:

1. Abdool Karim: few contacts, few partners, high condom
2. Skoler-Karpoff: more frequent, less condom use
3. Feldblum: more frequent & partners, high condom use

Å Role of single vs high-risk & low-risk adherence rates

Å Caprisa parameters as in de Bruin e.a. (2012)¹



Trial design implications

Å Trial power for different sexual risk behavior patterns

Study	Probability control	Probability intervention	Cumulative RR	Required sample size/arm
1	0,134	0,085	0,634	669
2	0,247	0,195	0,789	1034
3	0,620	0,418	0,674	101

Å Dito for general vs separate adherence % high & low risk

Å Implication 1: Consider effect modifiers in sample size computations and update based on actual participant behavior

Å Implication 2: Accurately measure all relevant variables and patterns (e.g. adherence high-low risk encounters)



Trial analysis implications

- Å RR is a unique product of trial behavior * time * TME (*other)
- Å TME can be compared and used as input for (CE) models
- Å Implication 3: In order to identify the true treatment effect, primary trial analyses may have to control for effect modifiers (not just overall adherence)
- Å Effect differential adherence on TME conclusions, Caprisa
 - ï 70% vs. 78% low & 44% high risk (1.8 times lower adherence)
 - ï TME estimate 57% versus 68%



Implications for (CE) models



- Å Modest changes in parameters can have large influence on projections (e.g. TME 67% or 58%)
- Å (CE) Models advanced¹ but assume general adherence percentage:
 - ï 61% overall: 580 infections prevented
 - ï 78% low vs 44% high risk (average 61%): 460 prevented (21% pts less)
- Å Implication 4: (CE) models require accurate TME estimates and actual population behavior estimates (e.g, adherence, condom use, etc)
- Å Implication 5: (CE) models may need to differentiate between adherence levels at high vs low risk encounters



Conclusion & limitations

Å Conclusions:

- ï Trial design, analyses and modeling studies could benefit from considering the influences described

Å Future research:

- ï Empirically test model-based assumptions
- ï Improve measures and obtain accurate population data

Å Limitations:

- ï Illustrations based on average trial data
- ï Scenario's somewhat different for oral versus topical
- ï Not all relevant variables included, e.g. frailty¹

1- O'Hagan e.a., AIDS, 2012;26(2):123-6





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de Bruin & Viechtbauer, PLoS one, 2012; 7(8):e44029

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