

Abstract

Predictions regarding the outcomes of medical treatment strategies—and treatment comparisons that are based on such predictions—are usually subject to two major types of uncertainty: uncertainty due to sampling error, and uncertainty regarding the validity of underlying assumptions. The latter type should be incorporated in the overall analysis model, as it can by far outweigh the uncertainty caused by sampling error. In this seminar, we will use a simple example to illustrate the problem, and we suggest one approach to dealing with indeterminate premises in the context of a clinical prediction.