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A BAYESIAN MISSING DATA FRAMEWORK FOR MULTIPLE CONTINUOUS OUTCOME MIXED TREATMENT COMPARISONS



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CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 64 pages. Dimensions: 11.0in. x 8.5in. x 0.1in. Mixed treatment comparisons (MTCs) are meta-analytic statistical techniques that incorporate the findings from several studies, where in most cases none of the studies compared all the treatments at one time, to address the comparative effectiveness and safety of interventions accounting for all sources of data. In the MTC data framework, since few head-to-head comparisons are available, we must rely on indirect comparisons, typically each investigated treatment against a control or a standard treatment. The biggest assumption in MTCs is exchangeability among studies; that is, any ordering of the true treatment effects across studies is equally likely a priori. In addition, populations in selected studies should be similar to the target population for valid clinical interpretation. Bayesian hierarchical statistical meta-analysis for MTCs with a single binary outcome has been investigated actively since the 1980s. However, compared with the binary outcome setting, there has been comparatively little development in Bayesian MTCs for continuous outcomes. Our interest in Bayesian MTC methods for multiple continuous outcomes is motivated by a systematic literature review at the Minnesota Evidence-based Practice Center (EPC) that investigated the effectiveness of physical therapies on chronic pain secondary to knee osteoarthritis (OA) for community-dwelling adults. OA treatments aim to reduce or control pain, improve physical function, prevent disability, and enhance quality of life. We recorded means of measured pain, disability, function, and quality of life scores associated with various physical therapy interventions from randomized studies. As our OA data contain many studies reporting multiple outcomes, and measured on the same subjects, correlations across arms and outcomes are likely, but this case has not been discussed much in the literature. For example, similar types of drugs or physical therapies may...



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