

# Desirability Of Outcome Ranking (DOOR)

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Founding Chair and Professor, Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics  
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George Washington University

# Disclosures

- Grants: from NIAID, NCI of the NIH.
- Royalties: Chapman & Hall/CRC Press.
- Board Membership: Frontier Science Foundation
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# Complexities in NASH Clinical Trials

- Several important multi-organ clinical and other events
  - Death
  - CV
  - CKD
  - New onset diabetes
  - Weight
  - ALT
  - Cancer
- Critical to recognize for clinical decision-making and patients, that some events are more important than others
  - Death is more important than a non-fatal event
  - Events w/ disabling sequelae are more important than those w/ non-disabling sequelae
  - Events w/ permanent sequelae are more important than those w/ transient sequelae

# Totality of Evidence and the Challenges in Benefit:risk Evaluation

- Typical benefit:risk analyses
  - Compare interventions for each efficacy and safety outcome
  - Combine these effects
- These analyses
  - Fail to incorporate associations between outcomes
  - Fail to recognize the cumulative nature of outcomes on individual patients
  - Suffer from competing risk complexities during interpretation of individual outcomes, and
  - Since efficacy and safety analyses are often conducted on different populations, generalizability is unclear.

# Question 1

- We define analysis populations
  - Efficacy: ITT population
  - Safety: safety population
- Efficacy population  $\neq$  safety population
- We combine these analyses into benefit:risk analyses
- To whom does this analysis apply?

# Question 2

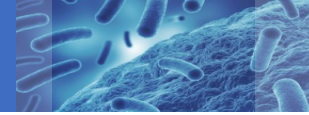
- Suppose we measure the duration of hospitalization
- Shorter duration is better ... or is it?
- The faster the patient dies, the shorter the duration
- Interpretation of an outcome needs context of other clinical outcomes for the same patient
- Why do we analyze them separately?



## Question 3

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- Suppose a loved one is diagnosed with a serious disease
- You are selecting treatment
- 3 treatment options: A, B, and C
- 2 outcomes, equally important
  - Treatment success: yes/no
  - Safety event: yes/no



# RCT Comparing A, B, and C

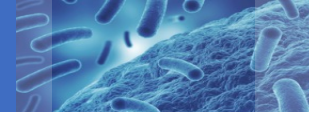
## *Analysis of Outcomes*

**A (N=100)**

**B (N=100)**

**C (N=100)**





## RCT Comparing A, B, and C

### *Analysis of Outcomes*

**A (N=100)**

Success: 50%

**B (N=100)**

Success: 50%

**C (N=100)**

Success: 50%



## RCT Comparing A, B, and C

### *Analysis of Outcomes*

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**A (N=100)**

Success: 50%

Safety event: 30%

**B (N=100)**

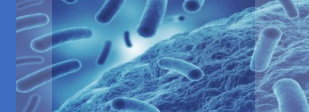
Success: 50%

Safety event: 50%

**C (N=100)**

Success: 50%

Safety event: 50%

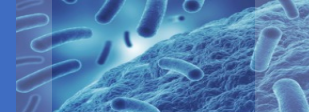


## RCT Comparing A, B, and C

### *Analysis of Outcomes*

<b>A (N=100)</b>	<b>B (N=100)</b>	<b>C (N=100)</b>
Success: 50%	Success: 50%	Success: 50%
Safety event: 30%	Safety event: 50%	Safety event: 50%

**Which treatment would you choose?**



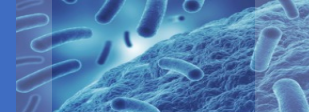
## RCT Comparing A, B, and C

### *Analysis of Outcomes*

<b>A (N=100)</b>	<b>B (N=100)</b>	<b>C (N=100)</b>
Success: 50%	Success: 50%	Success: 50%
Safety event: 30%	Safety event: 50%	Safety event: 50%

**Which treatment would you choose?**

**They all have the same success rate.**



## RCT Comparing A, B, and C

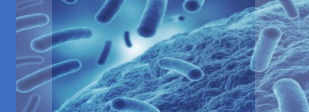
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Success: 50%	Success: 50%	Success: 50%
Safety event: 30%	Safety event: 50%	Safety event: 50%

**Which treatment would you choose?**

**They all have the same success rate.**

**A has the lowest safety event rate.**



## RCT Comparing A, B, and C

### *Analysis of Outcomes*

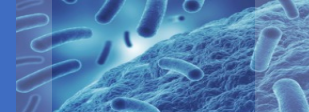
<b>A (N=100)</b>	<b>B (N=100)</b>	<b>C (N=100)</b>
Success: 50%	Success: 50%	Success: 50%
Safety event: 30%	Safety event: 50%	Safety event: 50%

**Which treatment would you choose?**

**They all have the same success rate.**

**A has the lowest safety event rate.**

**B and C are indistinguishable.**



## RCT Comparing A, B, and C

### *Analysis of Outcomes*

<b>A (N=100)</b>	<b>B (N=100)</b>	<b>C (N=100)</b>
Success: 50%	Success: 50%	Success: 50%
Safety event: 30%	Safety event: 50%	Safety event: 50%

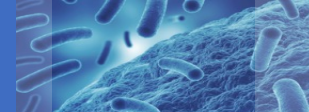
**Which treatment would you choose?**

**They all have the same success rate.**

**A has the lowest safety event rate.**

**B and C are indistinguishable.**

**Choose A...right?**



**Our culture is to use patients  
to analyze the outcomes.**

**Shouldn't we use outcomes to  
analyze the patients?**



## Analysis of Patients: 4 Possible Outcomes

### A (N=100)

Success: 50%

Safety event: 30%

		Success	
		+	-
SE	+	15	15
	-	35	35

### B (N=100)

Success: 50%

Safety event: 50%

		Success	
		+	-
SE	+	50	0
	-	0	50

### C (N=100)

Success: 50%

Safety event: 50%

		Success	
		+	-
SE	+	0	50
	-	50	0

## Analysis of Patients: 4 Possible Outcomes

**A (N=100)**

Success: 50%

Safety event: 30%

		Success	
		+	-
SE	+	15	15
	-	35	35

**B (N=100)**

Success: 50%

Safety event: 50%

		Success	
		+	-
SE	+	50	0
	-	0	50

**C (N=100)**

Success: 50%

Safety event: 50%

		Success	
		+	-
SE	+	0	50
	-	50	0

## Analysis of Patients: 4 Possible Outcomes

**A (N=100)**

Success: 50%

Safety event: 30%

		Success	
		+	-
SE	+	15	15
	-	35	35

**B (N=100)**

Success: 50%

Safety event: 50%

		Success	
		+	-
SE	+	50	0
	-	0	50

**C (N=100)**

Success: 50%

Safety event: 50%

		Success	
		+	-
SE	+	0	50
	-	50	0

## Analysis of Patients: 4 Possible Outcomes

**A (N=100)**

Success: 50%

Safety event: 30%

		Success	
		+	-
SE	+	15	15
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**B (N=100)**

Success: 50%

Safety event: 50%

		Success	
		+	-
SE	+	50	0
	-	0	50

**C (N=100)**

Success: 50%

Safety event: 50%

		Success	
		+	-
SE	+	0	50
	-	50	0

## Using Outcomes to Analyze Patients Rather than Patients to Analyze Outcomes: A Step Toward Pragmatism in Benefit:Risk Evaluation

Scott R. Evans<sup>a,b</sup> and Dean Follmann<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Biostatistics, Harvard University, Boston, MA, USA; <sup>b</sup>Center for Biostatistics in AIDS Research, Harvard University, Boston, MA, USA; <sup>c</sup>National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bethesda, MD, USA.

**Scott's father (a math teacher) to his confused son  
many years ago:**

**“The order of operations is important...”**

# Desirability Of Outcome Ranking (DOOR)

- A paradigm for the design, monitoring, analyses and reporting of clinical trials based on patient centric benefit:risk
- Addresses noted challenges

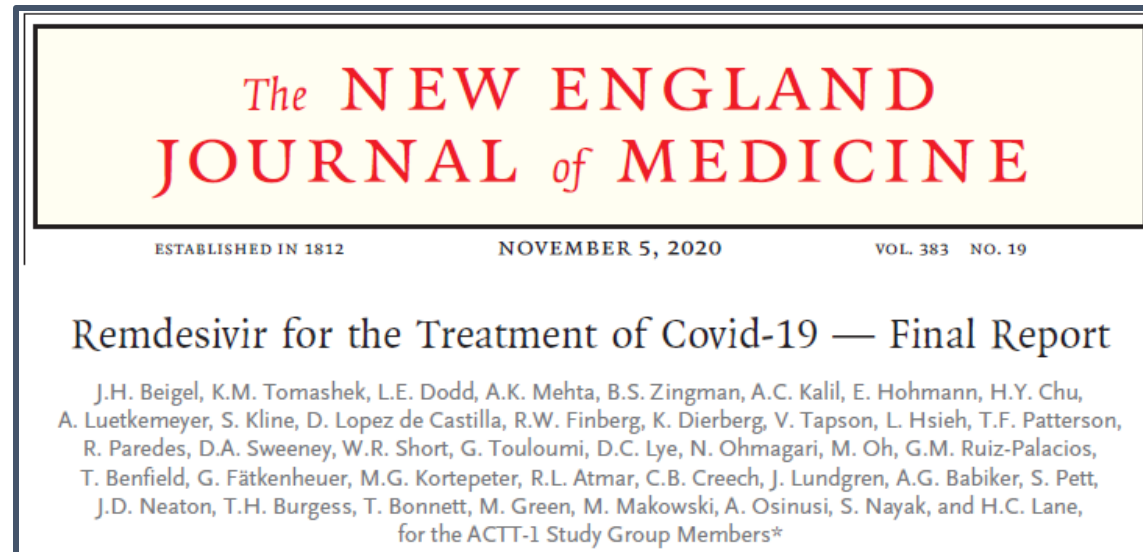
Before we analyze several hundred patients,  
we must understand how to analyze one.

# Brief Outline of DOOR

- Use outcomes to analyze patients
  - Construct ordinal DOOR based on the *patient journey*
- Two complimentary analyses
  1. Rank-based
    - Estimating the DOOR probability: the probability that a patient from treatment has a more desirable outcome than a patient on control
      - 50% implies equivalence
      - Intuitively attractive
  2. Partial credit (score based analyses)
- Analyze individual outcomes for comprehensive assessment

# Adaptive Covid-19 Treatment Trial (ACTT-1)

- No known efficacious treatments for COVID-19 at the time
- ACTT-1
  - Randomized double-blind placebo-controlled trial of IV remdesivir in hospitalized adult COVID-19 patients w/ LRTI
  - N=1062





# ACTT-1

- Important events
  - Death
  - Hospitalized with invasive mechanical ventilation / ECMO
  - SAE that is not resolved or resolved with sequelae

	Treatment	
	Remdesivir (N=541)	Placebo (N=521)
<b>DOOR (Day 29)</b>		
1. Alive: 0 of the other events above		
2. Alive: 1 of the other events above		
3. Alive: both of the other events above		
4. Death		

# ACTT-1

- Important events
  - Death
  - Hospitalized with invasive mechanical ventilation / ECMO
  - SAE that is not resolved or resolved with sequelae

	Treatment	
	Remdesivir (N=541)	Placebo (N=521)
<b>DOOR (Day 29)</b>		
1. Alive: 0 of the other events above		382 (73.3%)
2. Alive: 1 of the other events above		57 (10.9%)
3. Alive: both of the other events above		6 (1.2%)
4. Death		76 (14.6%)

# ACTT-1

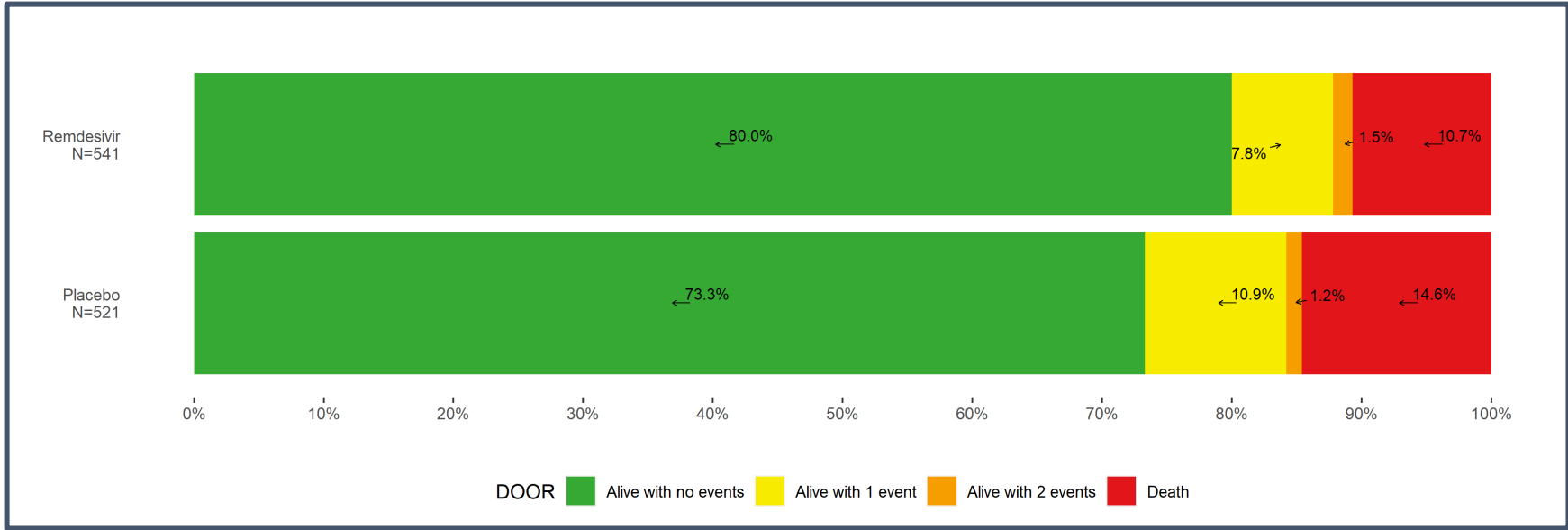
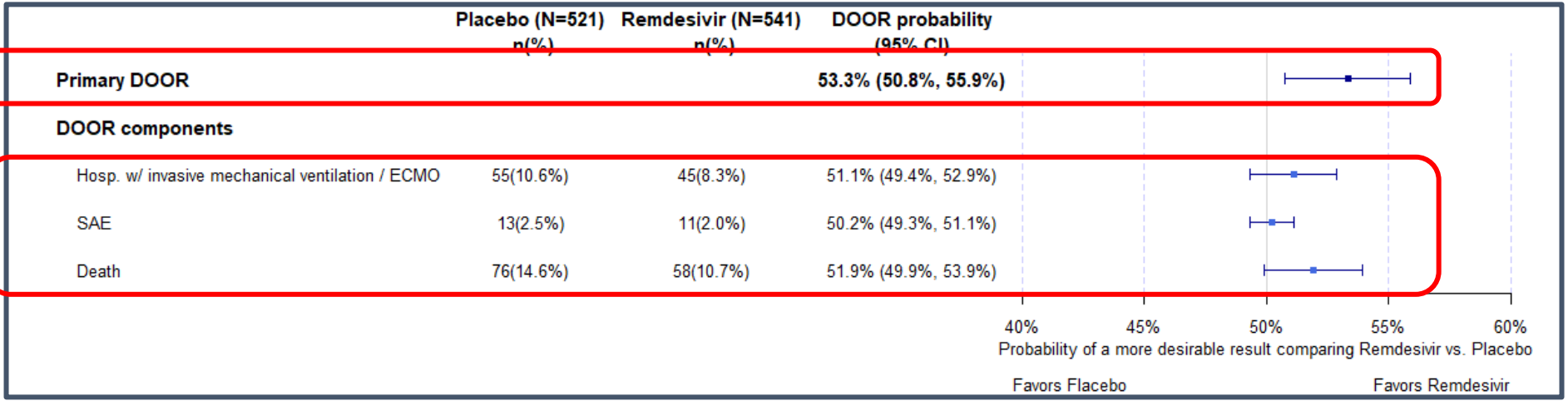
- Important events
  - Death
  - Hospitalized with invasive mechanical ventilation / ECMO
  - SAE that is not resolved or resolved with sequelae

	Treatment	
	Remdesivir (N=541)	Placebo (N=521)
<b>DOOR (Day 29)</b>		
1. Alive: 0 of the other events above	433 (80.0%)	382 (73.3%)
2. Alive: 1 of the other events above	42 (7.8%)	57 (10.9%)
3. Alive: both of the other events above	8 (1.5%)	6 (1.2%)
4. Death	58 (10.7%)	76 (14.6%)

# ACTT-1

- Important events
  - Death
  - Hospitalized with invasive mechanical ventilation / ECMO
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4. Death	58 (10.7%)	76 (14.6%)



## Expected Gain/Loss when Treating 1000 Patients

DOOR	Placebo	Remdesivir	Gained (+) / prevented (-) with treatment	Cumulative gained (+) / prevented (-) with treatment
1: Alive with no events	733	800	67	67
2: Alive with one event	109	78	-31	36
3: Alive with both events	12	15	3	39
4: Death	146	107	-39	0

Components	Placebo	Remdesivir	Gained(+)/prevented(-) with treatment
Hospitalized with invasive mechanical ventilation / ECMO	106	83	-23
SAE	25	20	-5
Death	146	107	-39

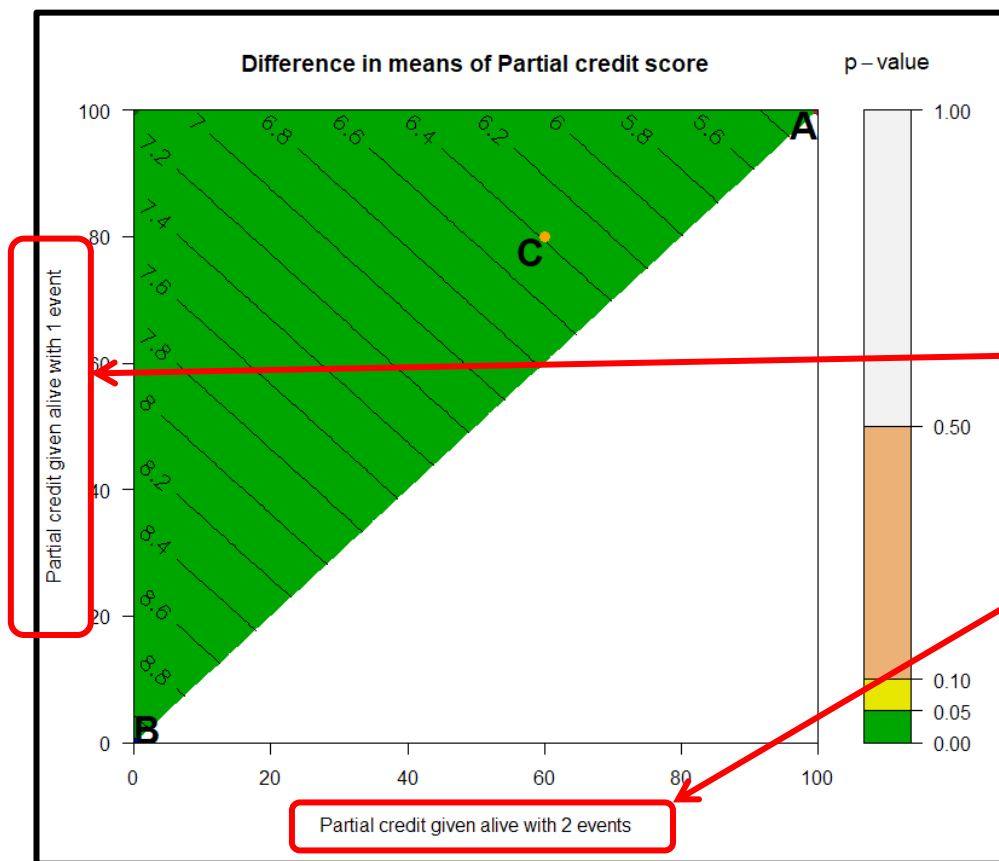
# PARTIAL CREDIT

	Score
1. Alive: 0 of the events	100
2. Alive: 1 of the events	Partial credit
3. Alive: both of the events	Partial credit
4. Death	0

**Partial credit can be used to account for:**

- 1. Unequal steps between categories**
- 2. Personalized perspectives among patients / clinicians regarding the desirability of the categories**
- 3. Robustness analyses**

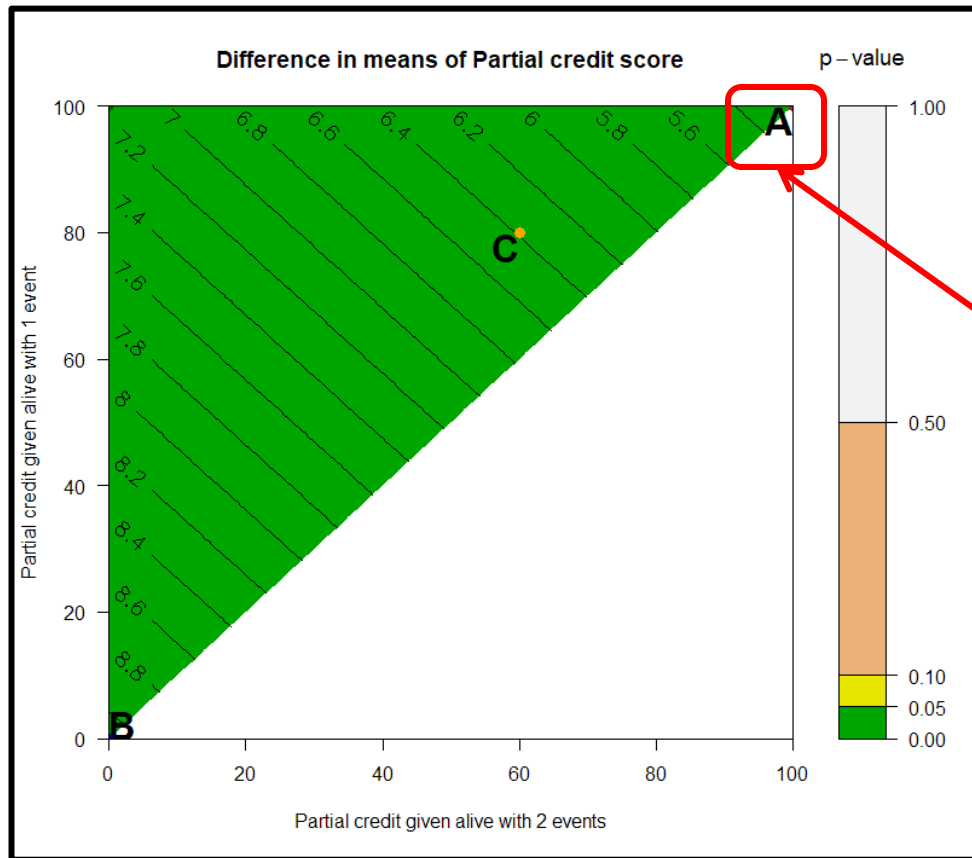
# Contours of Effects as Partial Credit Varies



Category	Credit
Alive; 0 event	100
Alive; 1 event	Partial credit
Alive; both events	Partial credit
Death	0



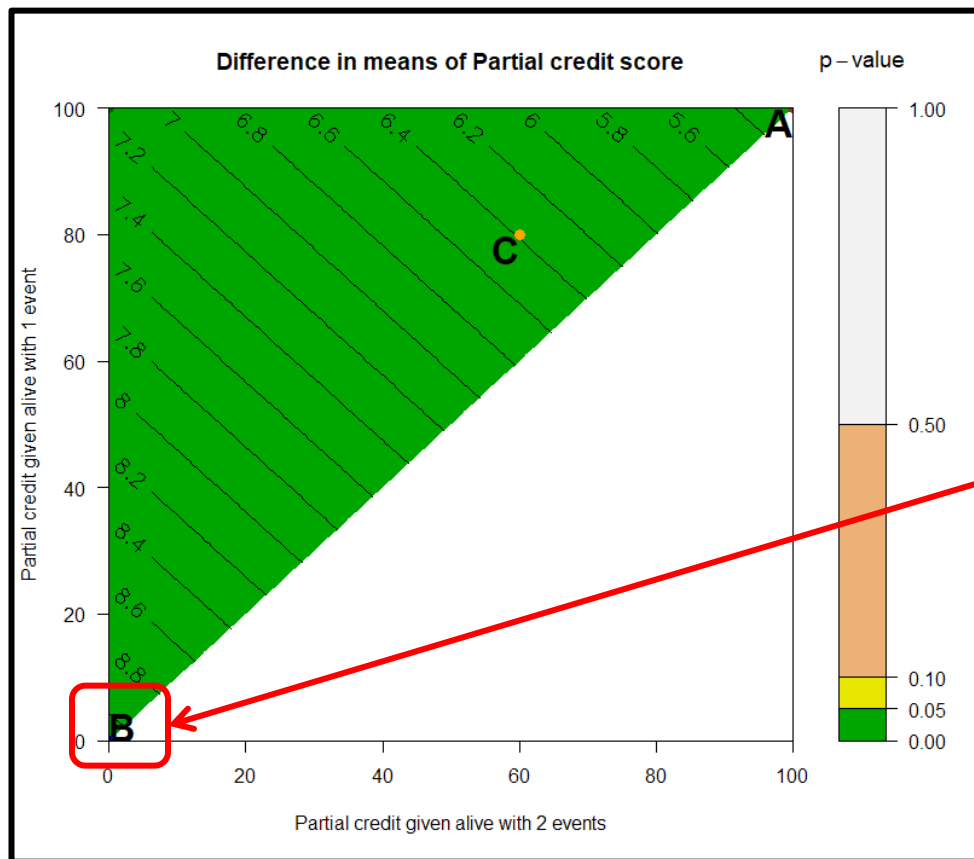
# Survival



Category	Credit
Alive 0 events	100
Alive; 1 event	100
Alive; both events	100
Death	0

Remdesivir Advantage  $\approx 5.2\%$

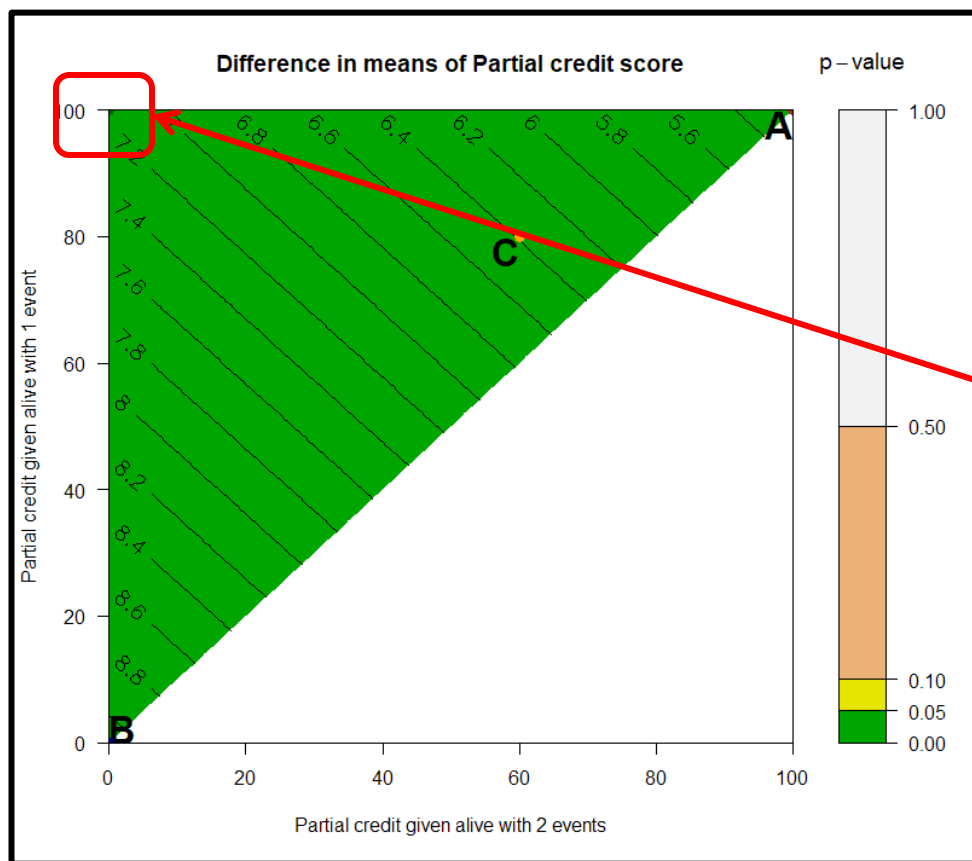
# Alive; 0 Events



Category	Credit
Alive; 0 events	100
Alive; 1 event	0
Alive; both events	0
Death	0

Remdesivir Advantage  $\approx 9.0\%$

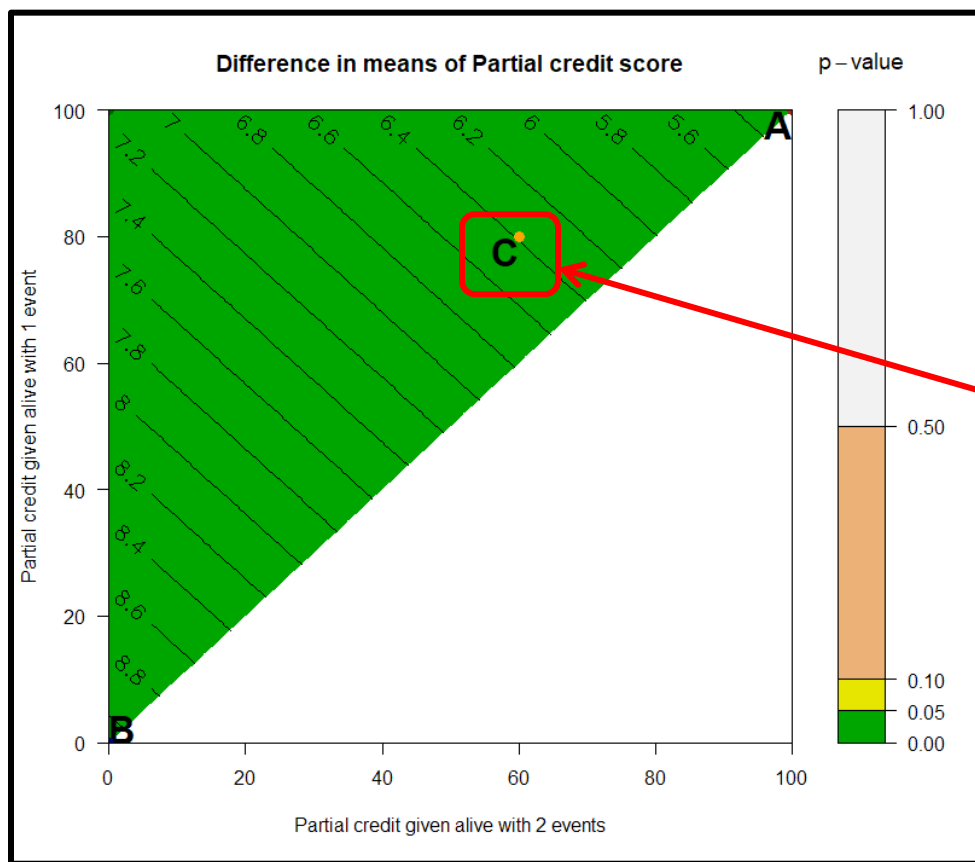
# Alive with 0 or 1 Events



Category	Credit
Alive; 0 events	100
Alive; 1 event	100
Alive; both events	0
Death	0

Remdesivir Advantage  $\approx 7.2\%$

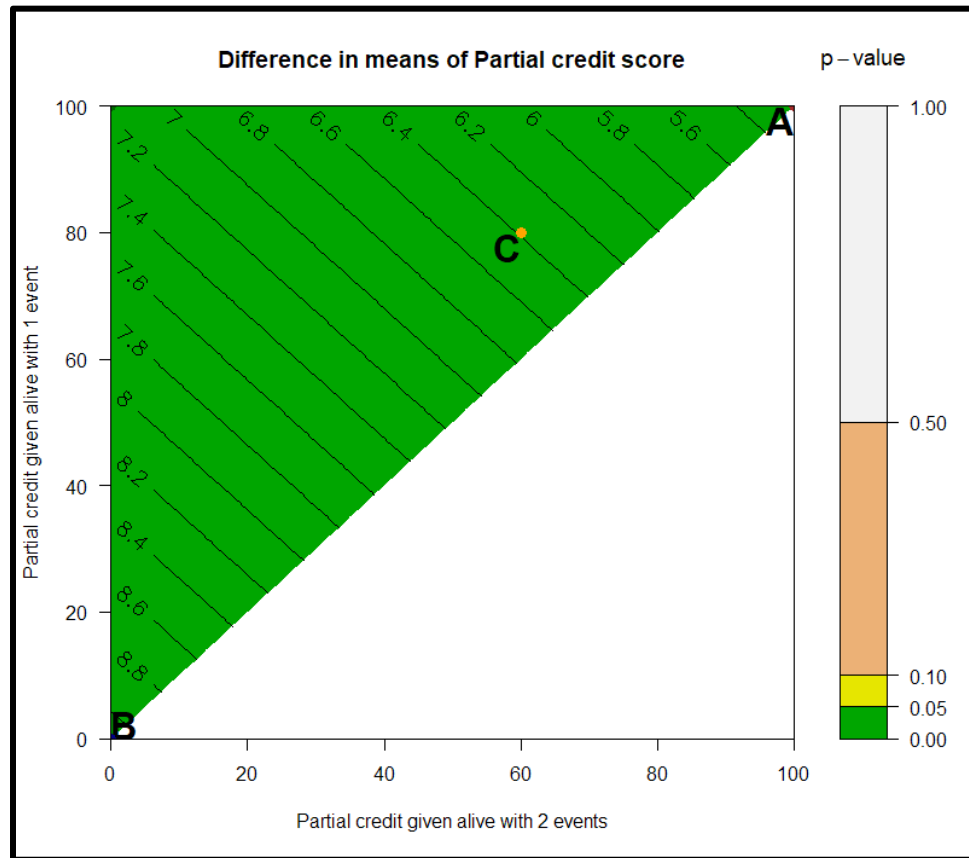
# Compromise



Category	Credit
Alive; 0 events	100
Alive; 1 event	80
Alive; both events	60
Death	0

Remdesivir Advantage  $\approx 6.4\%$

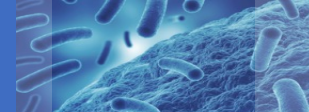
# Robustness



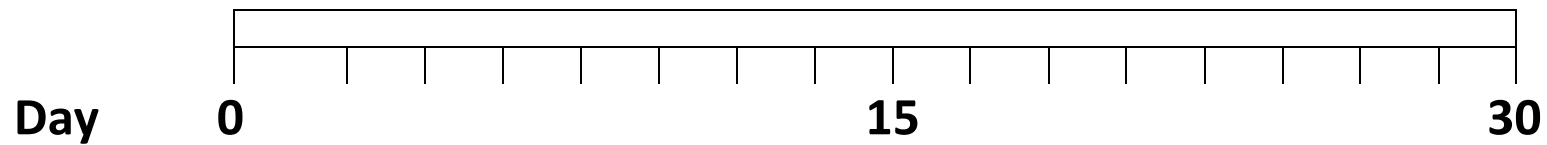
- Numeric results vary by partial credit grading key, though robustness is demonstrated as green color indicates statistical significance everywhere

# **Anthology of Patient Stories**

# Anthology of Patient Stories

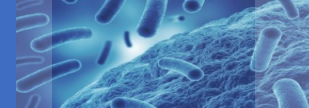


# The Patient Story

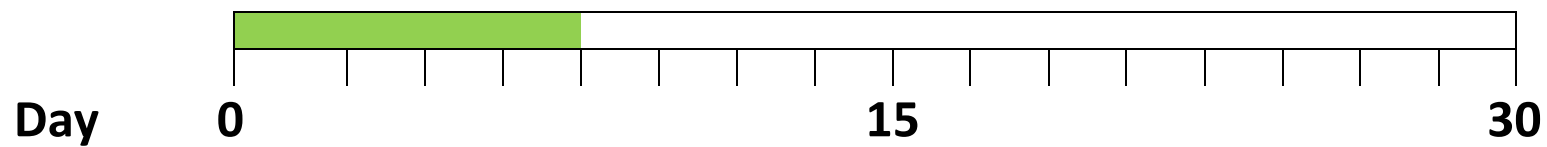






Alive with 0 events	Green
Alive with 1 event	Yellow
Alive with 2 events	Red
Death	Black

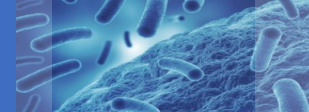




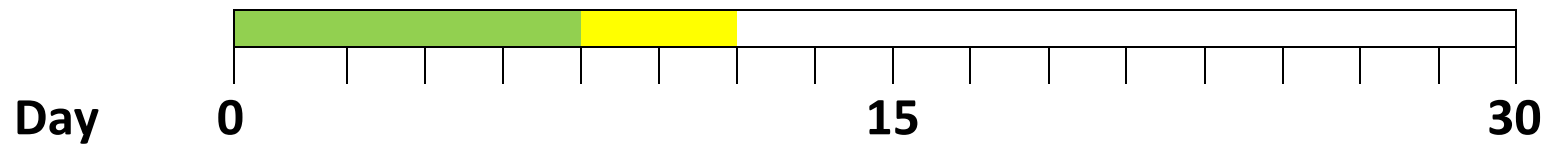
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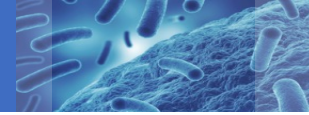
Alive with 0 events	
Alive with 1 event	
Alive with 2 events	
Death	



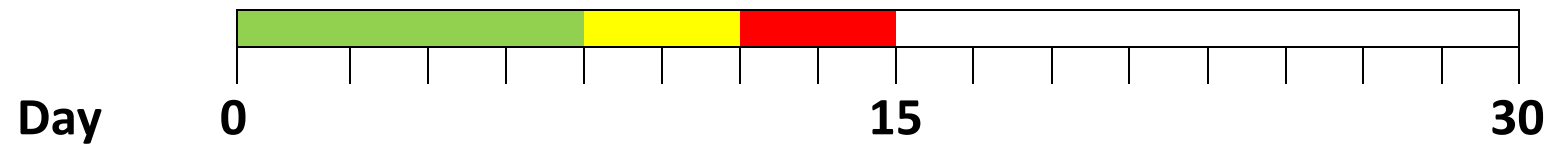
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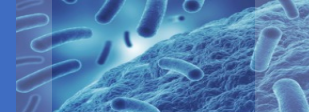
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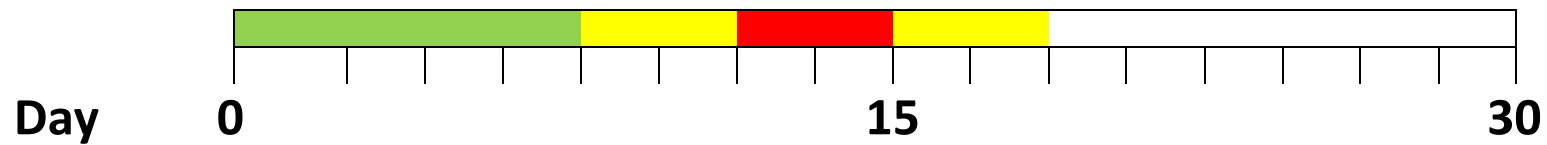
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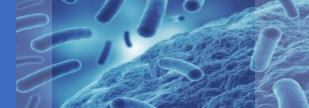
Alive with 0 events	
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Alive with 2 events	
Death	



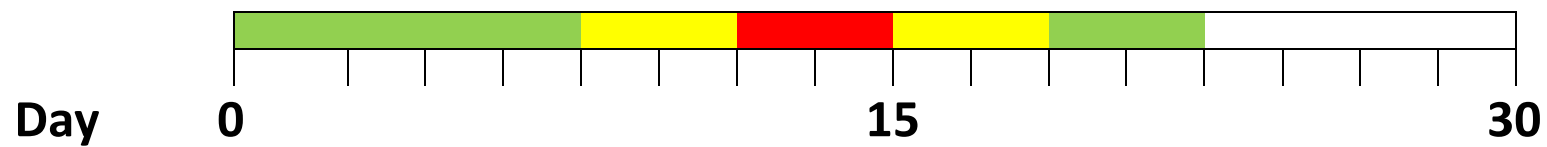
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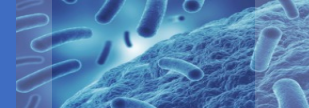
Alive with 0 events	
Alive with 1 event	
Alive with 2 events	
Death	



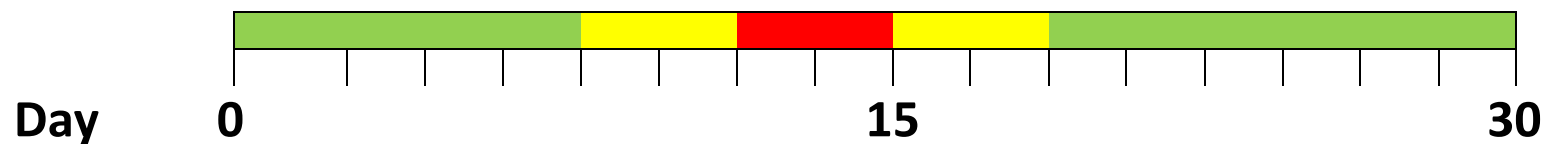
# The Patient Story



Alive with 0 events	
Alive with 1 event	
Alive with 2 events	
Death	



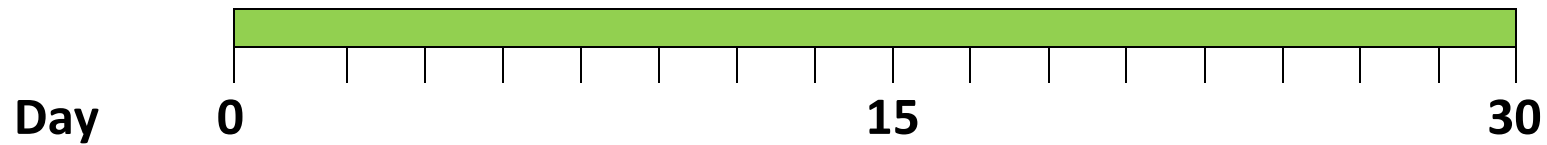
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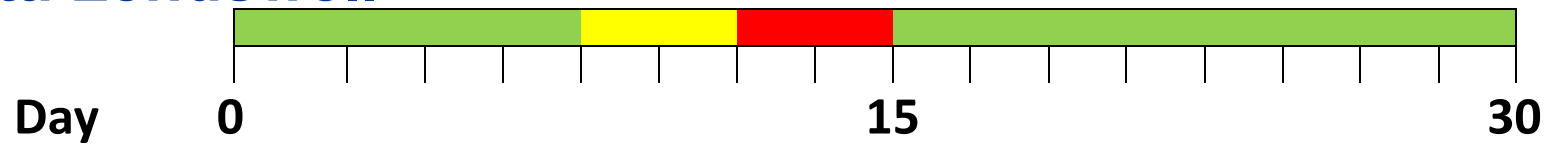
Alive with 0 events	
Alive with 1 event	
Alive with 2 events	
Death	

# The Trial Anthology: A Collection of Patient Stories

## Saul Goodman



## Ita Lendswell



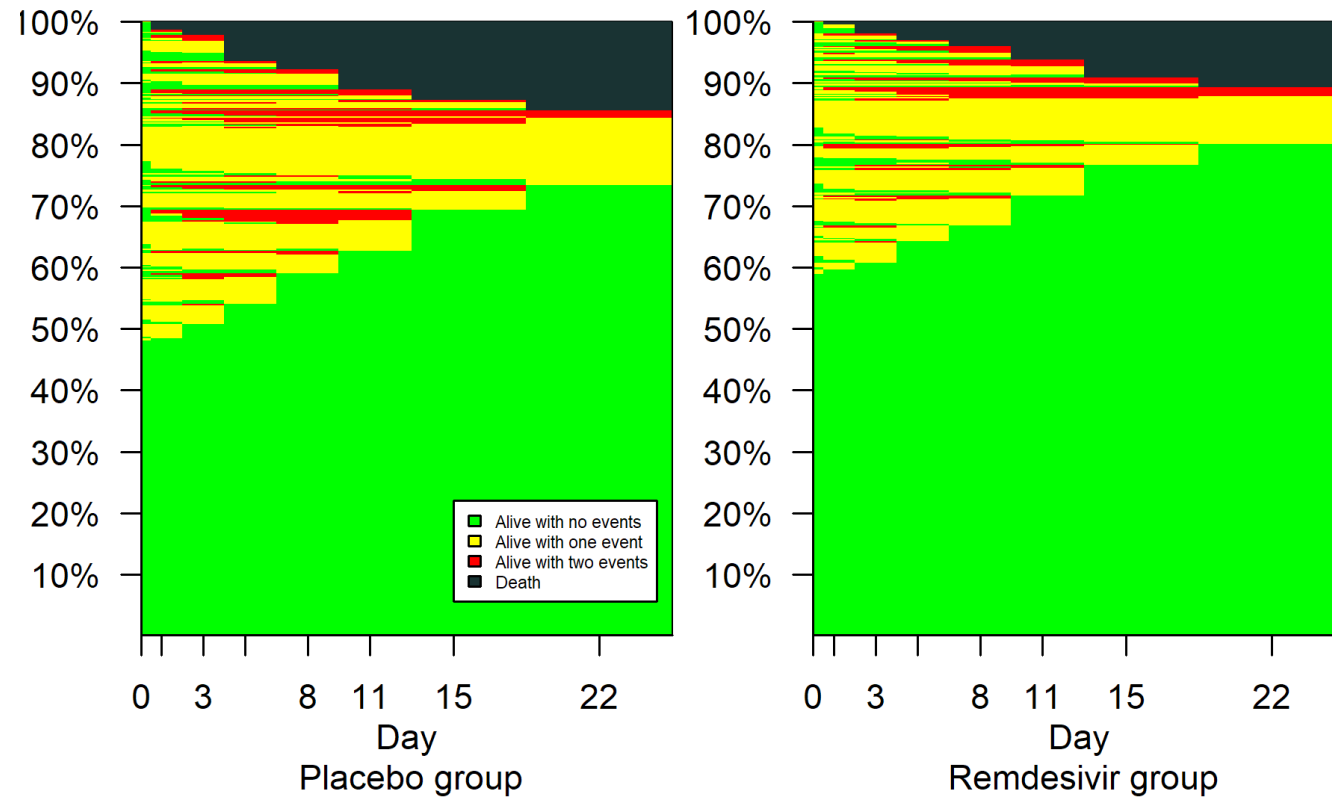
## Nori Koverly



## Statistician Marge N. O'vera



# The Trial Anthology of Patient Stories



- Mortality at Day 29: 14.6% in placebo; 10.7% in Remdesivir
- No events at Day 29: 73.3% in placebo; 80% in Remdesivir
- No events in all time intervals: 48% in placebo; 58.8% in Remdesivir





## FDA Antibacterial Drug Resistance (DOOR) Fellowship

ORISE | Silver Spring, MD



10 months ago

- Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS) in Geneva is expected to recommend regular including of DOOR in trial protocols to enhance benefit:risk assessment

# ARLG Innovations Working Group

- Group of Antibacterial Resistance Leadership Group (ARLG) investigators and regulators
- Goal: develop a standardized DOOR outcome and approach for each regulatory indication associated with bacterial infections
- Industry provides data from completed trials to refine and apply the methods
- FDA conducts analyses on data that they have to inform development

*Clinical Infectious Diseases*

**MAJOR ARTICLE**

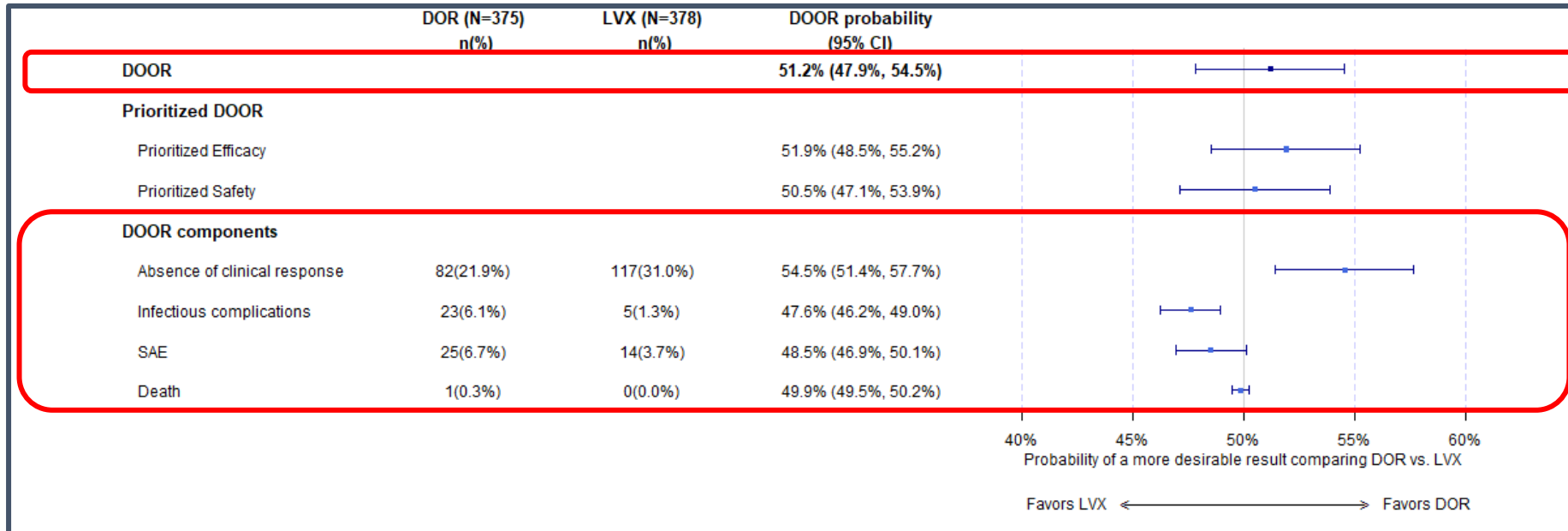
Improving Traditional Registrational Trial End Points:  
Development and Application of a Desirability of Outcome  
Ranking End Point for Complicated Urinary Tract  
Infection Clinical Trials

Jessica Howard-Anderson,<sup>1,2</sup> Toshimitsu Hamasaki,<sup>2</sup> Weixiao Dai,<sup>2</sup> Deborah Collyar,<sup>3</sup> Daniel Rubin,<sup>4</sup> Sumathi Nambiar,<sup>5</sup> Tori Kinamon,<sup>4</sup> Carol Hill,<sup>5</sup>  
Steven P. Gelone,<sup>7</sup> David Mariano,<sup>7</sup> Takamichi Baba,<sup>8</sup> Thomas L. Holland,<sup>6,9</sup> Sarah B. Doernberg,<sup>10</sup> Henry F. Chambers,<sup>10</sup> Vance G. Fowler Jr.,<sup>6,9</sup>  
Scott R. Evans,<sup>2</sup> Helen W. Boucherand<sup>11</sup>; on behalf of the Antibacterial Resistance Leadership Group

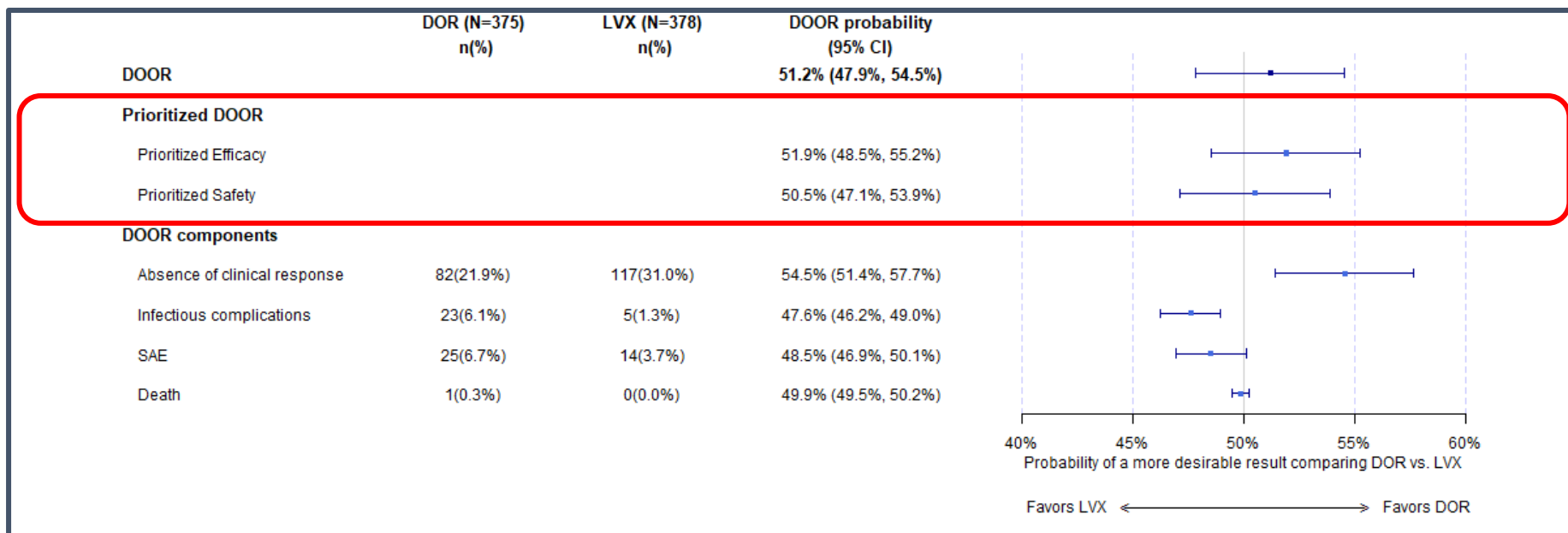
# Regulatory Indications for Bacterial Infections

	<b>HABP/VABP</b>	<b>ABSSSI</b>	<b>cUTI</b>	<b>cIAI</b>
<b>Absence of clinical response</b> <i>(Lack of global resolution of index infection or recurrence of index infection before test of cure)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did not meet clinical success or cure as assessed by study investigator at test of cure</li> <li>• Recurrent HABP/VABP prior to test of cure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did not meet clinical success or cure as assessed by study investigator at test of cure</li> <li>• Recurrent ABSSSI prior to test of cure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did not meet clinical success or cure as assessed by study investigator at test of cure</li> <li>• Recurrent cUTI prior to test of cure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did not meet clinical success or cure as assessed by study investigator at test of cure</li> <li>• Recurrent cIAI prior to test of cure</li> </ul>
<b>Infectious complications</b> <i>(Newly identified complications or progression of the original infection that was not present at enrollment or <i>C. difficile</i>)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complicated pleural effusion</li> <li>• Lung abscess/necrotizing pneumonia</li> <li>• ARDS</li> <li>• Meningitis</li> <li>• Bacteremia</li> <li>• Septic shock</li> <li>• Need for intubation</li> <li>• <i>C. difficile</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unplanned surgical intervention for progression/complication of original infection</li> <li>• Bacteremia</li> <li>• Septic shock</li> <li>• Osteomyelitis</li> <li>• <i>C. difficile</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renal or intraabdominal abscess</li> <li>• Septic shock</li> <li>• Bacteremia</li> <li>• Recurrent cUTI after test of cure</li> <li>• Prostatic abscess</li> <li>• Epididymo-orchitis</li> <li>• <i>C. difficile</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bacteremia</li> <li>• Septic shock</li> <li>• Peritonitis</li> <li>• Unplanned surgical intervention</li> <li>• <i>C. difficile</i></li> </ul>
<b>Serious adverse events (AEs)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICH E6 Good Clinical Practice guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICH E6 Good Clinical Practice guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICH E6 Good Clinical Practice guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICH E6 Good Clinical Practice guidelines</li> </ul>

# Example cUTI trial: Benefit – Harm Tradeoff



# Example cUTI trial: Benefit – Harm Tradeoff



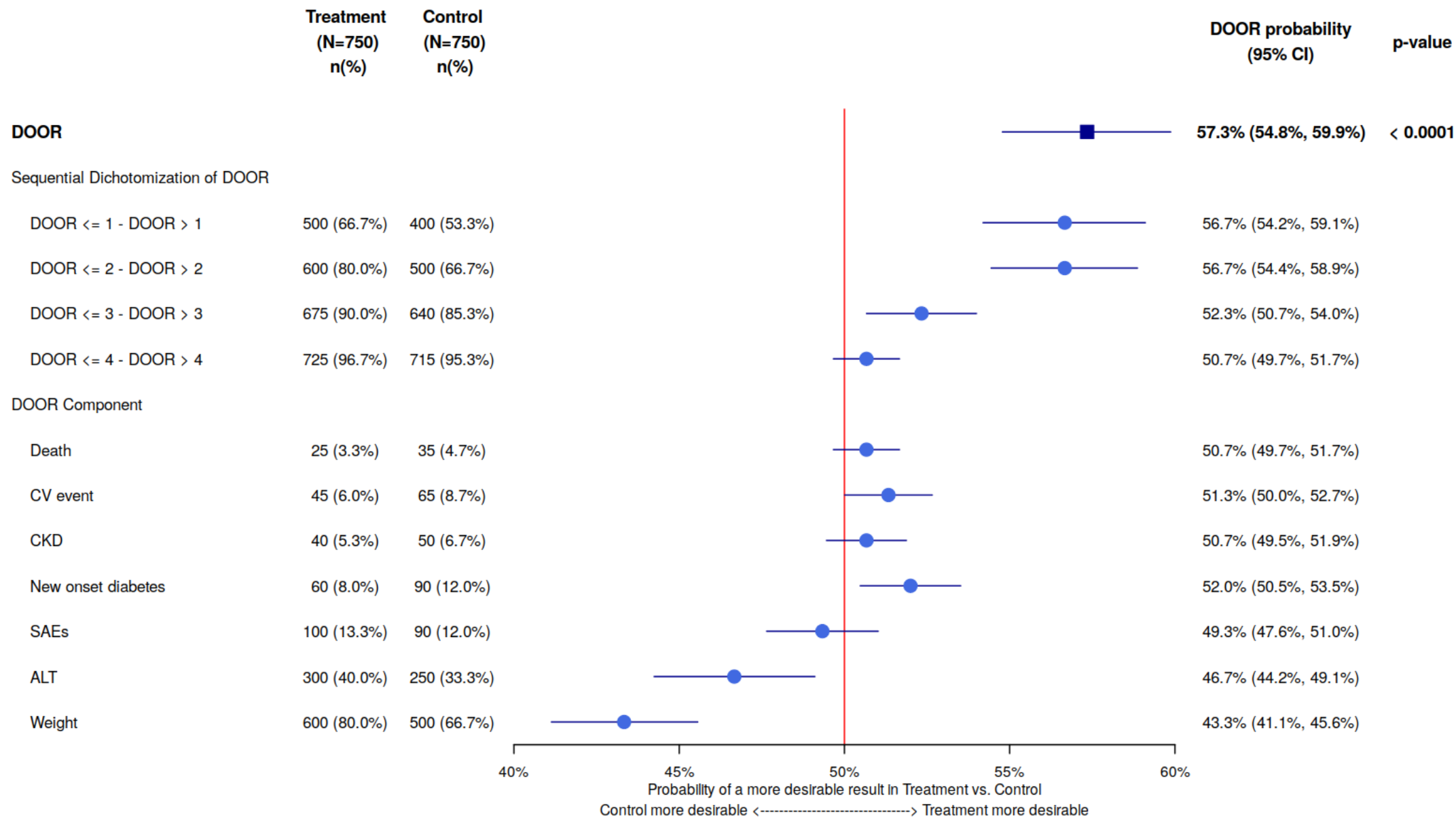
# Question

- Suppose an intervention increases risk of death of 1 in 10 to 2 in 10
- RR=2. Very important.
- Suppose an intervention increases risk of death of 1 in 10,000 to 2 in 10,000
- RR=2. Nearly irrelevant.
- The confidence intervals for both cases are exactly the same.
- RR is a challenge to interpret
- Even trickier when interpreting multiple RRs and how they counter-balance benefits and harms

# A DOORable NASH Trials?

- Important events
  - Death
  - CV event
  - CKD
  - New onset diabetes
  - Severe toxicities from therapy
  - ALT
  - Weight

	Treatment	
DOOR	Treatment	Control
1. Alive: 0 events		
2. Alive: 1 event		
3. Alive: 2 events		
4. Alive: >2 events		
5. Death		





# Freely-available Online Analysis Tool

<https://methods.bsc.gwu.edu/>

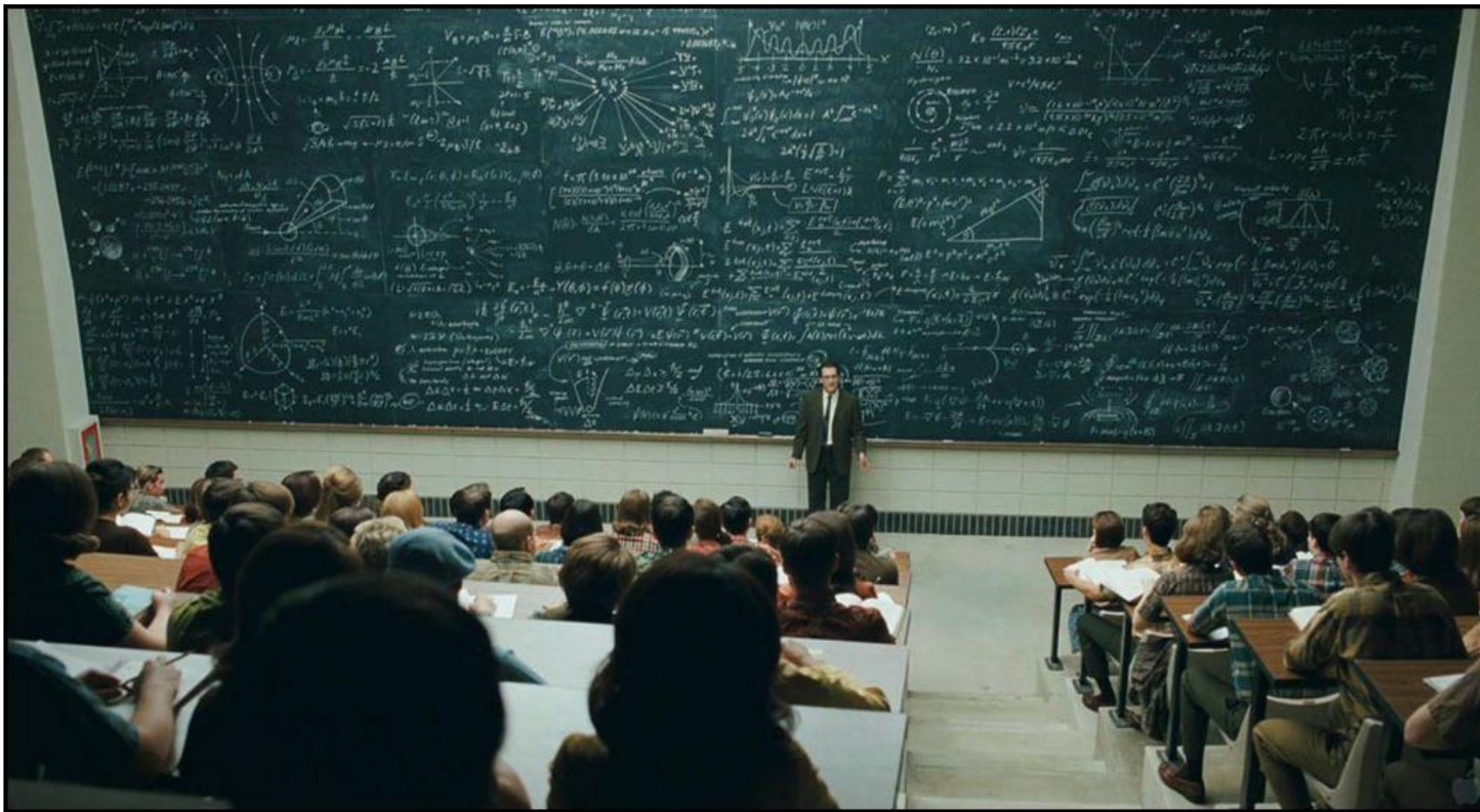
- Summary tables and graphics
- Expected comparative gain / loss in each category
- Partial credit

# Conclusions

- The effects of interventions are multidimensional
- Use outcomes to analyze patients rather than patients to analyze outcomes
  - A closer reflection of the effects on patients
- DOOR
  - Effective tool for evaluating totality of patient-centric effects (benefit:risk)
  - May be tailored for NASH
  - Analysis of individual components is part of comprehensive DOOR analyses
  - May be sensitive due to recognition of finer gradations of patient response

# Significant Contributors ( $p < 0.001$ )

- Toshi Hamasaki
- Dean Follmann
- Dan Rubin
- Antibacterial Resistance Leadership Group
- ACTT-1 Investigators



**I know that you will enthusiastically applaud now...**

**Because you are so relieved that it is over.**

**Thank you.**