

Three-strategy decision tree in R - HVE

The DARTH workgroup

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Please cite our publications when using this code:

- Jalal H, Pechlivanoglou P, Krijkamp E, Alarid-Escudero F, Enns E, Hunink MG. An Overview of R in Health Decision Sciences. *Med Decis Making*. 2017; 37(3): 735-746. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0272989X16686559>
- Alarid-Escudero, F., Krijkamp, E.M., Pechlivanoglou, P. et al. A Need for Change! A Coding Framework for Improving Transparency in Decision Modeling. *Pharmacoeconomics* 37, 1329–1339 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40273-019-00837-x>

Change eval to TRUE if you want to knit this document.

```
rm(list = ls())      # clear memory (removes all the variables from the workspace)
```

01 Load packages

```
if (!require('pacman')) install.packages('pacman'); library(pacman) # use this package to conveniently
# load (install if required) packages from CRAN
p_load("dplyr", "devtools", "scales", "ellipse", "ggplot2", "lazyeval", "igraph", "ggraph", "reshape2")
# load (install if required) packages from GitHub
p_load_gh("DARTH-git/darthtools")
```

02 Load functions

```
# all functions are in the darthtools package so no need for additional functions
```

03 Define parameter input values

```
v_names_str    <- c("No Tx", "Tx All", "Biopsy") # names of strategies
n_str          <- length(v_names_str)           # number of strategies
wtp            <- 100000                         # willingness to pay threshold

# Probabilities
p_HVE          <- 0.52 # prevalence of HVE
p_HVE_comp     <- 0.71 # complications with untreated HVE
p_OVE_comp     <- 0.01 # complications with untreated OVE
p_HVE_comp_tx  <- 0.36 # complications with treated HVE
p_OVE_comp_tx  <- 0.20 # complications with treated OVE
p_biopsy_death <- 0.005 # probability of death due to biopsy

# Costs
c_VE          <- 1200 # cost of viral encephalitis care without complications
c_VE_comp     <- 9000 # cost of viral encephalitis care with complications
c_tx          <- 9500 # cost of treatment
c_biopsy      <- 25000 # cost of brain biopsy
c_death_biopsy <- 0    # cost of dying from brain biopsy

# QALYs
q_VE          <- 20 # remaining QALYs for those without VE-related complications
q_VE_comp     <- 19 # remaining QALYs for those with VE-related complications
q_loss_biopsy <- 0.01 # one-time QALY loss due to brain biopsy
q_death_biopsy <- 0  # remaining QALYs for those who died during biopsy
```

04 Create and run decision tree model

```
# Create vector of weights for each strategy

v_w_no_tx <- c(  p_HVE *      p_HVE_comp      , # HVE, complications
                p_HVE * (1 - p_HVE_comp)    , # HVE, no complications
                (1 - p_HVE) *      p_OVE_comp  , # OVE, complications
                (1 - p_HVE) * (1 - p_OVE_comp)) # OVE, no complications

v_w_tx <- c(    p_HVE *      p_HVE_comp_tx , # HVE w/tx, complications
                p_HVE * (1 - p_HVE_comp_tx) , # HVE w/tx, no complications
                (1 - p_HVE) *      p_OVE_comp_tx , # OVE w/tx, complications
                (1 - p_HVE) * (1 - p_OVE_comp_tx)) # OVE w/tx, no complications

v_w_biopsy <- c(  p_biopsy_death      , # biopsy death
                  # no biopsy death., HVE w/tx, complications
                  (1 - p_biopsy_death) *      p_HVE *      p_HVE_comp_tx ,
                  # no biopsy death., HVE w/tx, no complications
                  (1 - p_biopsy_death) *      p_HVE * (1 - p_HVE_comp_tx) ,
                  # no biopsy death., OVE, complications
                  (1 - p_biopsy_death) * (1 - p_HVE) *      p_OVE_comp ,
                  # no biopsy death., OVE, no complications
                  (1 - p_biopsy_death) * (1 - p_HVE) * (1 - p_OVE_comp))

# Create vector of outcomes being complications for each strategy
v_comp_no_tx <- c(1,      # HVE, complications
                  0,      # HVE, no complications
                  1,      # OVE, complications
                  0)      # OVE, no complications

v_comp_tx <- c(1,      # HVE, complications
               0,      # HVE, no complications
               1,      # OVE, complications
               0)      # OVE, no complications

v_comp_biopsy <- c(1,      # biopsy complications
                  1,      # no biopsy comp., HVE w/tx, complications
                  0,      # no biopsy comp., HVE w/tx, no complications
                  1,      # no biopsy comp., OVE, complications
                  0)      # no biopsy comp., OVE, no complications

# Create vector of outcomes (QALYs) for each strategy
v_qaly_no_tx <- c(q_VE_comp ,      # HVE, complications
                  q_VE      ,      # HVE, no complications
                  q_VE_comp ,      # OVE, complications
                  q_VE)      # OVE, no complications

v_qaly_tx <- c(q_VE_comp ,      # HVE, complications
               q_VE      ,      # HVE, no complications
               q_VE_comp ,      # OVE, complications
               q_VE)      # OVE, no complications
```

```

# loss due to biopsy
v_qaly_biopsy <- c(q_death_biopsy - q_loss_biopsy, # biopsy complications
                  q_VE_comp      - q_loss_biopsy, # no biopsy comp., HVE w/tx, complications
                  q_VE           - q_loss_biopsy, # no biopsy comp., HVE w/tx, no complications
                  q_VE_comp      - q_loss_biopsy, # no biopsy comp., OVE, complications
                  q_VE           - q_loss_biopsy ) # no biopsy comp., OVE, no complications

# Create vector of costs for each strategy
# cost of no treatment
v_cost_no_tx <- c(c_VE_comp , # HVE, complications
                  c_VE      , # HVE, no complications
                  c_VE_comp , # OVE, complications
                  c_VE)      # OVE, no complications

# cost of treatment
v_cost_tx <- c(c_VE_comp + c_tx, # HVE, complications
               c_VE      + c_tx, # HVE, no complications
               c_VE_comp + c_tx, # OVE, complications
               c_VE      + c_tx) # OVE, no complications

# cost of biopsy procedure
v_cost_biopsy <- c(c_death_biopsy + c_biopsy, # cost of death (zero)
                  c_VE_comp + c_tx + c_biopsy, # no biopsy comp., HVE w/tx, complications
                  c_VE      + c_tx + c_biopsy, # no biopsy comp., HVE w/tx, no complications
                  c_VE_comp + c_biopsy, # no biopsy comp., OVE, complications
                  c_VE      + c_biopsy ) # no biopsy comp., OVE, no complications

## STAR MATERIAL ##
# Extra funfact about coding
# When you like to add a specific cost to all elements of a vector you can also add the costs before the vector

# cost of biopsy procedure
#v_cost_biopsy <- c_biopsy +
#
#               c(c_death_biopsy, # cost of death (zero)
#               c_VE_comp + c_tx, # no biopsy comp., HVE w/tx, complications
#               c_VE      + c_tx, # no biopsy comp., HVE w/tx, no complications
#               c_VE_comp , # no biopsy comp., OVE, complications
#               c_VE)      # no biopsy comp., OVE, no complications
#####

# Calculate expected complications for each strategy
total_comp_no_tx <- v_w_no_tx %*% v_comp_no_tx
total_comp_tx <- v_w_tx %*% v_comp_tx
total_comp_biopsy <- v_w_biopsy %*% v_comp_biopsy

# Calculate total utilities for each strategy
total_qaly_no_tx <- v_w_no_tx %*% v_qaly_no_tx

```

```

total_qaly_tx      <- v_w_tx      %*% v_qaly_tx
total_qaly_biopsy <- v_w_biopsy %*% v_qaly_biopsy

# Calculate total costs for each strategy
total_cost_no_tx  <- v_w_no_tx  %*% v_cost_no_tx
total_cost_tx     <- v_w_tx     %*% v_cost_tx
total_cost_biopsy <- v_w_biopsy %*% v_cost_biopsy

# vector of expected complications
v_total_comp <- c(total_comp_no_tx, total_comp_tx, total_comp_biopsy)
# vector of total QALYs
v_total_qaly <- c(total_qaly_no_tx, total_qaly_tx, total_qaly_biopsy)
# vector of total costs
v_total_cost <- c(total_cost_no_tx, total_cost_tx, total_cost_biopsy)
# calculate vector of nmb
v_nmb      <- v_total_qaly * wtp - v_total_cost

# Name outcomes
names(v_total_comp) <- v_names_str # names for the elements of the total comp vector
names(v_total_qaly) <- v_names_str # names for the elements of the total QALYs vector
names(v_total_cost) <- v_names_str # names for the elements of the total cost vector
names(v_nmb)       <- v_names_str  # names for the elements of the nmb vector

df_output <- data.frame(Strategy = v_names_str,
                        Cost      = v_total_cost,
                        Effect     = v_total_qaly,
                        Complications = v_total_comp,
                        NMB       = v_nmb)

# model output
df_output

```

05 Cost-Effectiveness Analysis

```

# create the transition probability matrix for NO treatment
decision_tree_HVE_cea <- calculate_icers(cost      = df_output$Cost,
                                         effect    = df_output$Effect,
                                         strategies = df_output$Strategy)

decision_tree_HVE_cea

```

05.1 Plot frontier of Decision Tree

```

plot(decision_tree_HVE_cea, effect_units = "QALYs", label = "all")

```