Daily MME Meta Analysis Adapting a method recently developed by FDA to analyze a related opioid methods question, we used meta analytic techniques to test the impact of the four definitions in the real-world. The general set up is to compare opioid use in FL vs. CA across the 4 definitions of daily MME. We previously observed that Florida had higher unadjusted levels of opioid use, presumably an interaction with an older population and the enactment of clinical pain management legislation. We took two approaches, 1) comparing the proportion of "high dose" users among opioid recipients, and 2) comparing average daily MME between the states, stratified by medicines used for acute versus chronic pain. Comparing "High Dose" patients in CA and FL Input dataset from table of high dose patients (>90 daily MME) among adult outpatient opioid recipients identified using the PDMP of each state. boundary=0 designates if it is greater than 90 MME and boundary=1 designates greater than or equal to 90 daily MME. This dataset is not actually used in the analysis but is the underlying raw data for subsequent steps. In [1]: clear all qui: input str2 state definition highdose population boundary "CA" 1 87078 2430870 0 "CA" 2 140822 2430870 0 "CA" 3 86407 2430870 0 "CA" 4 249471 2430870 0 "CA" 1 106240 2430870 1 "CA" 2 155254 2430870 1 "CA" 3 87407 2430870 1 "CA" 4 285807 2430870 1 "FL" 1 87295 1485591 0 "FL" 2 136995 1485591 0 "FL" 3 97346 1485591 0 "FL" 4 211429 1485591 0 "FL" 1 113998 1485591 1 "FL" 2 157794 1485591 1 "FL" 3 98541 1485591 1 "FL" 4 261335 1485591 1 end * Create numeric indicator for state gen staten=1 if state=="FL" replace staten=0 if state=="CA" . gen staten=1 if state=="FL" (8 missing values generated) replace staten=0 if state=="CA" (8 real changes made) Generate Rate Ratios with California staten=0 reference group. In [2]: di "===== Proportion of high dose patients FL vs CA greater than 90 daily MME =====" * definition 1 **csi** 87295 87078 1485591 2430870 * definition 2 csi 136995 140822 1485591 2430870 * definition 3 csi 97346 86407 1485591 2430870 * definition 4 csi 211429 249471 1485591 2430870 ===== Proportion of high dose patients FL vs CA greater than 90 daily MME ===== | Exposed Unexposed | Cases | Cases | 87295 87078 | 174373 Noncases | 1485591 2430870 | 3916461 Total | 1572886 2517948 | 4090834 Risk | .0554999 .0345829 | .0426253 Point estimate | [95% Conf. Interval] .02134 .020917 | .0204939 Risk difference | 1.604835 Risk ratio | | 1.590181 1.619625 .376883 Attr. frac. ex. | .3711406 .3825731 Attr. frac. pop | .188676 chi2(1) = 10379.59 Pr> chi2 = 0.0000| Exposed Unexposed | Cases | 136995 140822 | 277817 Noncases | 1485591 2430870 | 3916461 Total | 1622586 2571692 | 4194278 Risk | .08443 .0547585 | .0662371 Point estimate | [95% Conf. Interval] .0296715 | .0291613 Risk difference | 1.541862 1.530841 1.552962 Risk ratio | Attr. frac. ex. | .3514334 .3467642 .3560692 .1732962 Attr. frac. pop | chi2(1) = 14161.57 Pr>chi2 = 0.0000| Exposed Unexposed | Total Cases | 97346 86407 | 183753 Noncases | 1485591 2430870 | 3916461 Total | 1582937 2517277 | 4100214 Risk | .0614971 .0343256 | .0448155 Point estimate | [95% Conf. Interval] | .0267349 .0276081 | 1.775632 1.807674 Risk difference | .0271715 1.791581 Risk ratio | .4418339 .4368202 Attr. frac. ex. | .2340684 Attr. frac. pop | chi2(1) = 16761.00 Pr> chi2 = 0.0000| Exposed Unexposed | Total ---+-----249471 | 211429 Cases | 460900 Noncases | 1485591 2430870 | 3916461 Total | 1697020 2680341 | 4377361 Risk | .1245884 .0930744 | .1052917 Point estimate | [95% Conf. Interval] .031514 | .0309075 .0321206 1.33859 | 1.331294 1.345926 .2529453 Risk difference | Risk ratio | .2529453 Attr. frac. ex. | .2488511 .2570171 Attr. frac. pop | .1160338 chi2(1) = 10954.62 Pr>chi2 = 0.0000Scrape "Risk ratio" into new input dataset. Create log-transformed variables to meet normal distribution assumption of meta analytic statistics. In [3]: clear all qui: input definition irr ll ul str31 label 1 1.604835 1.590181 1.619625 "D1. Sum of days supply" 2 1.541862 1.530841 1.552962 "D2. Accounting for overlap days" 3 1.791581 1.775632 1.807674 "D3. Defined observation window" 4 1.33859 1.331294 1.345926 "D4. Maximum daily dose" end gen lnirr=ln(irr) gen lnll=ln(ll) gen lnul=ln(ul) qui: meta set lnirr lnll lnul, studylabel(label) . gen lnirr=ln(irr) . gen lnll=ln(ll) . gen lnul=ln(ul) . qui: meta set lnirr lnll lnul, studylabel(label) Run meta analysis command using fixed effects REML model. Since there is no sampling variation, fixed effects is the preferred a priori specification. In [4]: meta **summarize**, fixed eform Effect-size label: Effect Size Effect size: lnirr Std. Err.: meta se Study label: label Number of studies = Meta-analysis summary Fixed-effects model Heterogeneity: Method: Inverse-variance 12 (%) = 99.91H2 = 1148.14Study | exp(ES) [95% Conf. Interval] % Weight ______ D1. Sum of days supply | 1.605 1.590 1.620 15.37 ccounting for overlap~s | 1.542 1.531 1.553 25.14 efined observation wi~w | 1.792 1.776 1.808 16.18 D4. Maximum daily dose | 1.339 1.331 1.346 43.31 D2. Accounting for overlap~s | D3. Defined observation wi~w | D4. Maximum daily dose | ______ exp(theta) | 1.495 1.490 1.501 Test of theta = 0: z = 219.17Prob > |z| = 0.0000Test of homogeneity: Q = chi2(3) = 3444.41Prob > Q = 0.0000For the sake of completeness, random effects models are also run, using the Sidik-Jonkman random(sj) estimator because tau is expected to be large Veroniki et al., with DerSimonian-Laird random(dl) as well separately for comparison. In [5]: meta summarize, random(sj) eform Effect-size label: Effect Size Effect size: lnirr Std. Err.: _meta_se Study label: label Number of studies = 4 Meta-analysis summary Random-effects model Heterogeneity: Method: Sidik-Jonkman tau2 = 0.014512 (%) = 99.90H2 = 1004.19Study | exp(ES) [95% Conf. Interval] % Weight D1. Sum of days supply | 1.605 1.590 1.620 24.99
Accounting for overlap~s | 1.542 1.531 1.553 25.00
Defined observation wi~w | 1.792 1.776 1.808 24.99
D4. Maximum daily dose | 1.339 1.331 1.346 25.01 D2. Accounting for overlap~s | D3. Defined observation wi~w | ______ 1.561 1.387 exp(theta) | 1.756 Prob > |z| = 0.0000Test of theta = 0: z = 7.39Test of homogeneity: Q = chi2(3) = 3444.41Prob > Q = 0.0000In [6]: meta summarize, random(dl) eform Effect-size label: Effect Size Effect size: lnirr Std. Err.: meta se Study label: label Meta-analysis summary Number of studies = Random-effects model Heterogeneity: Method: DerSimonian-Laird tau2 = 0.016612 (%) = 99.91H2 = 1148.14Study | exp(ES) [95% Conf. Interval] % Weight D1. Sum of days supply | 1.605 1.590 1.620 24.99
Accounting for overlap~s | 1.542 1.531 1.553 25.00
Defined observation wi~w | 1.792 1.776 1.808 24.99
D4. Maximum daily dose | 1.339 1.331 1.346 25.01 D2. Accounting for overlap~s | D3. Defined observation wi~w | exp(theta) | 1.561 1.376 1.771 ______ Prob > |z| = 0.0000Test of theta = 0: z = 6.91Test of homogeneity: Q = chi2(3) = 3444.41Prob > Q = 0.0000Results are similar, but SJ is preferred based on simulations in Veroniki et al. The fixed effects model over emphasizes precision (e.g., confuses it for more information) in D4 due to the higher number of high dose patients. Since there is no sampling variation Interpretation The proportion of "high dose" patients was consitently higher in Florida across all variants. However, the magnitude of the difference varied greatly: 79% (95% CI: 78%, 81%) for Definition 3 (defined observation window); 60% (95% CI: 59%, 62%) for Definition 1 (sum of days supply); 54% (95% CI: 53%, 55%) for Definition 2 (accounting for overlap days); and 34% (95% CI: 33%, 35%) for Definition 4 (maximum daily dose). Metrics confirmed very high heterogenity between the definitions, with I2 greater than 99% and H2 of 1148, supported by tests of hetereogenity chi2 of 3444 on 3 degrees of freedom (p<0.0001), and overall effect z=219, with 1 degree of freedom and p<0.0001. Meta Analysis of Means by Type of Opioid In this meta analysis we examine the impact of definitional variation on acute vs. chronic pain patients, measured by opioid formulation type. We stratified the sample into three sub-groups: 1) patients receiving on only immediate-release or short-acting opioids labeled for acute pain (hereafter immediate-release; 2) patients receiving only extended-release or long-acting opioids generally labeled for chronic pain (hereafter extended-release); and 3) patients receiving both immediate-release and extended-release opioids contemporaneously within the 3 month observation period (e.g., chronic pain patients receiving opioids for breakthrough pain or during taper). Input data from analysts with mean (and SE) of daily MME, with stratum-specific population, by formulation and state. clear all In [7]: qui: input str2 state definition avg se population formulation str80 label "CA" 1 30.3156249 0.1477 2273028 1 "D1. California Sum of days supply" "CA" 2 31.5819604 0.1479 2273028 1 "D2. California Accounting for overlap days" "CA" 3 10.3398905 0.0282 2273028 1 "D3. California Defined observation window" "CA" 4 39.6430507 0.1860 2273028 1 "D4. California Maximum daily dose" "FL" 1 34.0531498 0.0246 1338828 1 "D1. Florida Sum of days supply" "FL" 2 35.0964146 0.0261 1338828 1 "D2. Florida Accounting for overlap days" "FL" 3 12.5794512 0.0219 1338828 1 "D3. Florida Defined observation window" "FL" 4 44.7478467 0.0418 1338828 1 "D4. Florida Maximum daily dose" "CA" 1 90.2232825 0.5002 40038 2 "D1. California Sum of days supply" "CA" 2 103.7573329 0.6715 40038 2 "D2. California Accounting for overlap days" "CA" 3 72.753132 0.5228 40038 2 "D3. California Defined observation window" "CA" 4 153.6802569 1.0256 40038 2 "D4. California Maximum daily dose" "FL" 1 86.9071545 0.5450 26039 2 "D1. Florida Sum of days supply" "FL" 2 96.9302372 0.6372 26039 2 "D2. Florida Accounting for overlap days" "FL" 3 66.8367252 0.5028 26039 2 "D3. Florida Defined observation window" "FL" 4 143.0437107 0.9884 26039 2 "D4. Florida Maximum daily dose" "CA" 1 74.1906194 0.1876 117804 3 "D1. California Sum of days supply" "CA" 2 143.9839494 0.4413 117804 3 "D2. California Accounting for overlap days" "CA" 3 122.7372442 0.4328 117804 3 "D3. California Defined observation window" "CA" 4 250.7462218 0.8219 117804 3 "D4. California Maximum daily dose" "FL" 1 82.95423 0.1703 120724 3 "D1. Florida Sum of days supply" "FL" 2 160.1525421 0.3788 120724 3 "D2. Florida Accounting for overlap days" "FL" 3 133.0969773 0.3625 120724 3 "D3. Florida Defined observation window" "FL" 4 267.949697 0.6850 120724 3 "D4. Florida Maximum daily dose" end gen staten=1 if state=="FL" replace staten=0 if state=="CA" . gen staten=1 if state=="FL" (12 missing values generated) replace staten=0 if state=="CA" (12 real changes made) Immediate-release only Continuing with the approach in the previous meta analysis, we compared the average daily MME between Florida and California. We used negative binomial (NB2) regression to estimate the relative difference (ratio). NB2 was used instead of Poisson due to overdispersion. formulation==1 designates the IR-only category. No linear transformation needed in this meta analysis because average MME is continuous. In [8]: di "--Definition 1--" glm avg staten [fw=population] if formulation==1 & definition==1, link(log) family(nb) eform nohead di "--Definition 2--" glm avg staten [fw=population] if formulation==1 & definition==2, link(log) family(nb) eform nohead di "--Definition 3--" glm avg staten [fw=population] if formulation==1 & definition==3, link(log) family(nb) eform nohead di "--Definition 4--" glm avg staten [fw=population] if formulation==1 & definition==4, link(log) family(nb) eform nohead --Definition 1-note: avg has noninteger values Iteration 0: $\log likelihood = -16146496$ Iteration 1: log likelihood = -16146496 OIM avg | IRR Std. Err. z P>|z| [95% Conf. Interval]
 staten | 1.123287
 .0012424
 105.11
 0.000
 1.120855
 1.125725

 _cons | 30.31562
 .0204367
 5060.82
 0.000
 30.27559
 30.35571
 ______ Note: cons estimates baseline incidence rate. --Definition 2-note: avg has noninteger values Iteration 0: $\log likelihood = -16277871$ Iteration 1: $\log \text{ likelihood} = -16277871$ ______ OIM avg | IRR Std. Err. z P>|z| [95% Conf. Interval]

 staten |
 1.11128
 .0012285
 95.45
 0.000
 1.108875
 1.113691

 _cons |
 31.58196
 .0212768
 5124.81
 0.000
 31.54029
 31.62369

 staten | Note: cons estimates baseline incidence rate. --Definition 3-note: avg has noninteger values Iteration 0: $\log likelihood = -12470064$ Iteration 1: log likelihood = -12470062
Iteration 2: log likelihood = -12470062 ------OIM avg | IRR Std. Err. z P>|z| [95% Conf. Interval] staten | 1.216594 .0013811 172.70 0.000 1.21389 1.219304 _cons | 10.33989 .0071822 3363.03 0.000 10.32582 10.35398 Note: _cons estimates baseline incidence rate. --Definition 4-note: avg has noninteger values Iteration 0: $\log likelihood = -17108631$ Iteration 1: $\log likelihood = -17108631$ OIM avg | IRR Std. Err. z P>|z| [95% Conf. Interval]

 staten | 1.128769
 .001244
 109.90
 0.000
 1.126333

 _cons | 39.64305
 .0266241
 5479.37
 0.000
 39.5909

 39.5909 39.69527 Note: _cons estimates baseline incidence rate. Effect measure and standard errors scraped into a new dataset for meta analysis, and put into a new frame In [9]: frame create ir frame change ir qui: input definition rr se str80 label 1 1.123287 .0012424 "D1. Sum of days supply" 2 1.11128 .0012285 "D2. Accounting for overlap days" 3 1.216594 .0013811 "D3. Defined observation window" 4 1.128769 .001244 "D4. Maximum daily dose" end qui: meta set rr se , studylabel(label) . qui: meta set rr se , studylabel(label) **Extended-release only** In [10]: frame change default di "--Definition 1--" glm avg staten [fw=population] if formulation==2 & definition==1, link(log) family(nb) eform nohead di "--Definition 2--" glm avg staten [fw=population] if formulation==2 & definition==2, link(log) family(nb) eform nohead di "--Definition 3--" glm avg staten [fw=population] if formulation==2 & definition==3, link(log) family(nb) eform nohead di "--Definition 4--" glm avg staten [fw=population] if formulation==2 & definition==4, link(log) family(nb) eform nohead --Definition 1-note: avg has noninteger values Iteration 0: $\log likelihood = -362969.87$ Iteration 1: $\log likelihood = -362969.87$ OIM IRR Std. Err. z P>|z| [95% Conf. Interval] avg |

 staten | .9632454
 .0077119
 -4.68
 0.000
 .9482483
 .9784797

 _cons | 90.22328
 .4533942
 895.93
 0.000
 89.33901
 91.11631

 Note: cons estimates baseline incidence rate. --Definition 2-note: avg has noninteger values Iteration 0: $\log likelihood = -371363.94$ Iteration 1: $\log \text{ likelihood} = -371363.94$ MIO avg | IRR Std. Err. z P>|z| [95% Conf. Interval]

 staten | .9342013
 .0074746
 -8.51
 0.000
 .9196656
 .9489667

 _cons | 103.7573
 .5210332
 924.41
 0.000
 102.7411
 104.7836

 Note: cons estimates baseline incidence rate. --Definition 3-note: avg has noninteger values Iteration 0: $\log likelihood = -347612.99$ Iteration 1: $\log likelihood = -347612.99$ OIM avg | IRR Std. Err. z P>|z| [95% Conf. Interval] Note: cons estimates baseline incidence rate. --Definition 4-note: avg has noninteger values Iteration 0: $\log likelihood = -397119.55$ Iteration 1: $\log likelihood = -397119.55$ OIM IRR Std. Err. z P>|z| [95% Conf. Interval] avg |

 staten | .9307879
 .0074353
 -8.98
 0.000
 .9163284
 .9454755

 _cons | 153.6803
 .7705313
 1004.19
 0.000
 152.1774
 155.1979

 Note: cons estimates baseline incidence rate. In [11]: frame create er frame change er input definition rr se str80 label 1 .9632454 .0077119 "D1. Sum of days supply" 2 .9342013 .0074746 "D2. Accounting for overlap days" 3 .9186782 .0073665 "D3. Defined observation window" 4 .9307879 .0074353 "D4. Maximum daily dose" end qui: meta set rr se , studylabel(label) definit~n rr se label Both Extended-release and Immediate-release In [12]: frame change default **glm** avg staten [fw=population] **if** formulation==3 & definition==1, link(log) family(nb) eform nohead di "--Definition 2--" glm avg staten [fw=population] if formulation==3 & definition==2, link(log) family(nb) eform nohead di "--Definition 3--" glm avg staten [fw=population] if formulation==3 & definition==3, link(log) family(nb) eform nohead di "--Definition 4--" glm avg staten [fw=population] if formulation==3 & definition==4, link(log) family(nb) eform nohead --Definition 1-note: avg has noninteger values Iteration 0: $\log \text{ likelihood} = -1280775.8$ Iteration 1: $\log likelihood = -1280775.8$ OIM avg | IRR Std. Err. z P>|z| [95% Conf. Interval] 1.118123 .0046083 27.09 0.000 1.109127 staten | _cons | 74.19061 .2176087 1468.29 0.000 73.76533 Note: cons estimates baseline incidence rate. --Definition 2-note: avg has noninteger values Iteration 0: $\log likelihood = -1437573.4$ Iteration 1: $\log \text{ likelihood} = -1437573.3$ ______ avg | IRR Std. Err. z P>|z| [95% Conf. Interval] staten | 1.112294 .0045703 25.90 0.000 1.103373 1.121288 143.1612 _cons | 143.9839 .4209562 1699.84 0.000 Note: cons estimates baseline incidence rate. --Definition 3-note: avg has noninteger values Iteration 0: $\log \text{ likelihood} = -1396572.1$ Iteration 1: $\log likelihood = -1396572.1$ ______ IRR Std. Err. z P>|z| [95% Conf. Interval]
 staten | 1.084406
 .0044584
 19.71
 0.000
 1.075703

 _cons | 122.7372
 .3590528
 1644.25
 0.000
 122.0355
 Note: cons estimates baseline incidence rate. --Definition 4-note: avg has noninteger values Iteration 0: $\log likelihood = -1564732.5$ Iteration 1: $\log likelihood = -1564732.5$ ______ avg | IRR Std. Err. z P>|z| [95% Conf. Interval] staten | 1.068609 .0043848 16.17 0.000 1.06005 1.06005 1.077238 Note: cons estimates baseline incidence rate. In [13]: frame create erir frame change erir input definition rr se str80 label 1 1.118123 .0046083 "D1. Sum of days supply" 2 1.112294 .0045703 "D2. Accounting for overlap days" 3 1.084406 .0044584 "D3. Defined observation window" 4 1.068609 .0043848 "D4. Maximum daily dose" qui: meta set rr se , studylabel(label) definit~n rr se label **Meta Regression** Meta regression is being used to assess heterogeneity, not to derive a summary effect measure. Since there is no sampling variation between studies, fixed effect models are used, but random effects models were also run to check for major divergent results (none were found, data not shown but can be run with the commented-out code below). IR only In [14]: frame **ir** { meta **summarize**, fixed *meta summarize, random(sj) Effect-size label: Effect Size Effect size: rr Std. Err.: se Study label: label Meta-analysis summary Number of studies = 4 Fixed-effects model Heterogeneity: 12 (%) = 99.92Method: Inverse-variance H2 = 1293.65Study | Effect Size [95% Conf. Interval] % Weight D1. Sum of days supply | 1.123 1.121 1.126 26.11 D2. Accounting for overlap~s | 1.111 1.109 1.114 26.71 D3. Defined observation wi~w | 1.217 1.214 1.219 21.13 D4. Maximum daily dose | 1.129 1.126 1.131 26.05 theta | 1.141 1.140 1.142 Test of theta = 0: z = 1797.53Prob > |z| = 0.0000Test of homogeneity: Q = chi2(3) = 3880.94Prob > Q = 0.0000**ER** only In [15]: frame er { meta **summarize**, fixed *meta summarize, random(sj) Effect-size label: Effect Size Effect size: rr Std. Err.: se Study label: label Number of studies = 4 Meta-analysis summary Heterogeneity: Fixed-effects model 12 (%) = 83.83Method: Inverse-variance H2 = 6.19Study | Effect Size [95% Conf. Interval] % Weight D1. Sum of days supply | 0.963 0.948 0.978 0.934 0.920 0.949 25.13 D2. Accounting for overlap~s | 0.919 0.904 0.931 0.916 0.933 25.87 D3. Defined observation wi~w | D4. Maximum daily dose | 0.945 ______ theta | 0.936 0.929 0.944 ______ Prob > |z| = 0.0000Test of theta = 0: z = 249.85Test of homogeneity: Q = chi2(3) = 18.56Prob > Q = 0.0003**Both ER and IR** frame erir { In [16]: meta **summarize**, fixed *meta summarize, random(sj) Effect-size label: Effect Size Effect size: rr Std. Err.: se Study label: label Meta-analysis summary Number of studies = Fixed-effects model Heterogeneity: Method: Inverse-variance 12 (%) = 96.31H2 = 27.12Study | Effect Size [95% Conf. Interval] % Weight _____ D1. Sum of days supply | 1.118 1.109 1.127 23.87 D2. Accounting for overlap~s | 1.112 1.103 1.121 24.27 D3. Defined observation wi~w | 1.084 1.076 1.093 25.50 D4. Maximum daily dose | 1.069 1.060 1.077 26.36 ______ 1.095 1.091 1.099 theta | ______ Test of theta = 0: z = 486.39Prob > |z| = 0.0000Test of homogeneity: Q = chi2(3) = 81.37Prob > Q = 0.0000Interpretation • ER only group had *lower* average daily MME in Florida than California?! Heterogeneity by I^2 was high for all 3 definitions Heterogeneity was lowest for ER-only group • For ER+IR group, the definitional variants would have resulted in us conclusing that average daily MME was higher in FL by: 6.9%, 8.4%, 11.2%, or 11.8%. Are these interesting policy or clinical distinctions?