A Bayesian Network Model Assessing the Risk to Wastewater Workers of Contracting Ebola Virus Disease During an Outbreak

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# What's Bayesian updating?





# What's Bayesian updating?





# What's a Bayesian network?



#### What's a Bayesian network?



# **BN** example: medical diagnostics



### 2014 Ebola outbreak



Recovered In treatment Died

New York Times, 2014

# Risk to wastewater workers?



- need for assessment of risk to wastewater workers
- need to understand risk mitigation options

### **Conceptual model**



#### **Bayesian network model**



# Highlight 1: hemorrhaging

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# Will the patient experience gastrointestinal hemorrhaging?

Study	Number of Ebola patients	Number with GI hemorrhaging	Probability of GI hemorrhaging	Study weight
1	37	9	24.3%	1.8%
2	464	19	4.1%	22.1%
3	666	6	0.9%	31.8%
4	20	5	25.0%	1.0%
5	23	10	43.5%	1.1%
6	44	1	2.3%	2.1%
7	843	48	6.7%	40.2%

#### Highlight 1: hemorrhage correction



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#### How do we specify worker's exposure point?









# Highlight 3: outputs

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How do we communicate risk results?









# Results

- median daily risk (no specifications) : 6.1×10<sup>-12</sup>
  (90% CI 1.0×10<sup>-12</sup> –5.4×10<sup>-9</sup>)
- median daily risk (worst-case scenario): 5.8×10<sup>-4</sup> (90% CI 8.8×10<sup>-7</sup>–9.5×10<sup>-2</sup>)
- risk is greatest under ingestion scenarios
- disinfection and dilution have substantial impacts on risk

# **Decision support**

Probability of illness						
<1 in 10^11	0 +					
<1 in 10^10	.002					
<1 in 10^9	.020					
<1 in 10^8	0.18					
<1 in 10^7	1.09	]				
<1 in 10^6	4.25					
<1 in 10^5	11.2					
<1 in 10^4	20.4					
<1 in 10^3	23.8					
<1 in 10^2	20.9					
<1 in 10	13.7					
>1 in 10	4.32					
0.0326 ± 0.12						

Disinfo stien weath ad								
Disinfection method								
bleach	0							
quats	0							
paa	100							
none	0							
			•					
			$\rightarrow$					
Exposu	ure tim	e (min)	→					
Exposu twomin	u <b>re tim</b>	e (min)						
<b>Expos</b> ution twomin fifteenmin	u <b>re tim</b> 0 100	e (min)						
<b>Exposit</b> twomin fifteenmin thirtymin	u <b>re tim</b> 0 100 0	e (min)						

Probability of illness							
<1 in	10^11	.015					
<1 in	10^10	0.13					
<1 in	10^9	1.28	9				
<1 in	10^8	10.3					
<1 in	10^7	31.1					
<1 in	10^6	23.3					
<1 in	10^5	19.2					
<1 in	10^4	11.4					
<1 in	10^3	3.20					
<1 in	10^2	.067					
<1 in	10	0 +					
>1 in	10	0 +					
2.87e-5 ± 0.00019							

# **BN** conclusions

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- Bayesian networks can incorporate many different factors to estimate risk
- can also detect key parameters affecting risk and simulate scenarios and treatment effects
- powerful decision support tool for risk managers

#### (for more – see *Risk Analysis* manuscript)

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