

Raccomandazioni REWARD. Sessione II

Metodologia, regolamentazione e gestione della ricerca

DISCUSSANT

Gualberto Gussoni

Direttore scientifico Fondazione FADOI

Paolo Giorgi Rossi

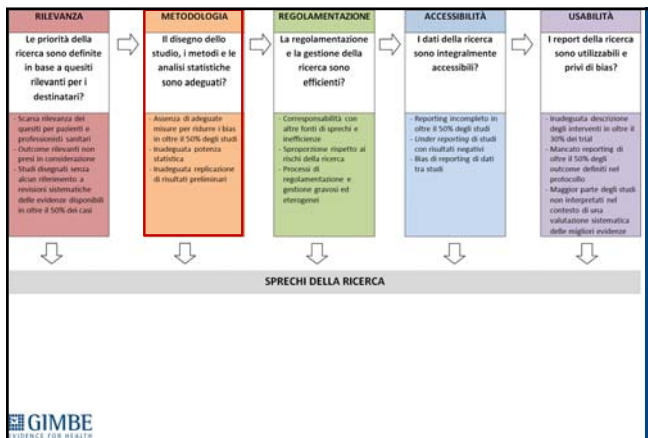
Comitato Etico Provinciale di Reggio Emilia

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Fondazione IRCCS Ca' Granda Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico
Editor in Chief European Journal of Internal Medicine



Research: increasing value, reducing waste 2

Increasing value and reducing waste in research design, conduct, and analysis

John P A Ioannidis, Sander Greenland, Mark A Hlatky, Muin J Khoury, Malcolm R Macleod, David Moher, Kenneth F Schulz, Robert Tibshirani

Recommendations

- 1 Make publicly available the full protocols, analysis plans or sequence of analytical choices, and raw data for all designed and undertaken biomedical research
 - Monitoring—proportion of reported studies with publicly available (ideally preregistered) protocol and analysis plans, and proportion with raw data and analytical algorithms publicly available within 6 months after publication of a study report
- 2 Maximise the effect-to-bias ratio in research through defensible design and conduct standards, a well trained methodological research workforce, continuing professional development, and involvement of non-conflicted stakeholders

- Monitoring—proportion of publications without conflicts of interest, as attested by declaration statements and then checked by reviewers; the proportion of publications with involvement of scientists who are methodologically well qualified is also important, but difficult to document
- 3 Reward (with funding, and academic or other recognition) reproducibility practices and reproducible research, and enable an efficient culture for replication of research
 - Monitoring—proportion of research studies undergoing rigorous independent replication and reproducibility checks, and proportion replicated and reproduced

METODOLOGIA

Il disegno dello studio, i metodi e le analisi statistiche sono adeguati?

- Assenza di adeguate misure per ridurre i bias in oltre il 50% degli studi
- Inadeguata potenza statistica
- Inadeguata replicazione di risultati preliminari



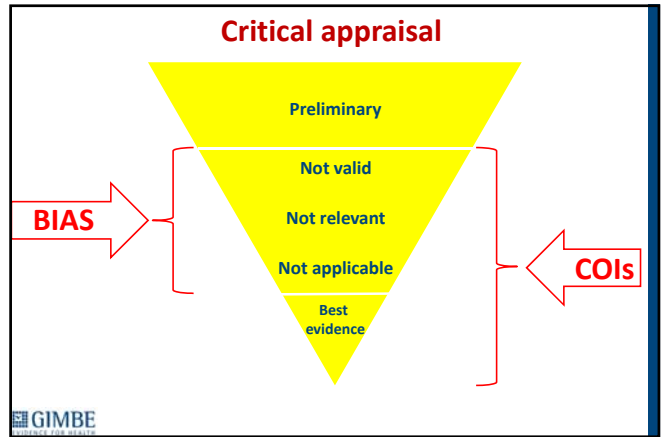
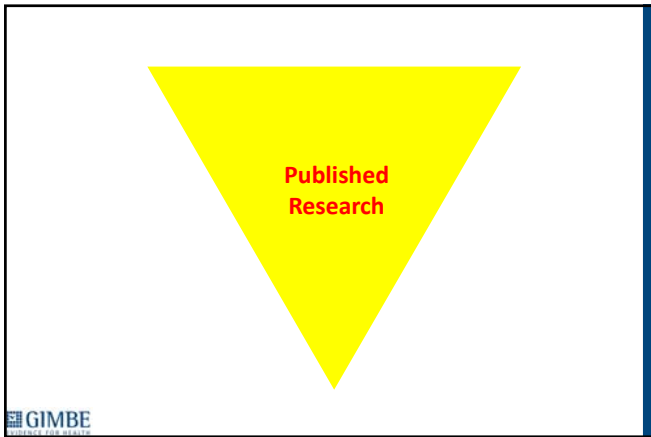
BMJ

LONDON, SATURDAY 29 JANUARY 1994

The scandal of poor medical research

We need less research, better research, and research done for the right reasons

DOUGLAS G ALTMAN



Open access, freely available online

Essay

Why Most Published Research Findings Are False

John P. A. Ioannidis

Published: August 30, 2005

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OPEN ACCESS Freely available online

PLOS MEDICINE

Essay

How to Make More Published Research True

John P. A. Ioannidis^{1,2,3,4*}

1 Meta-Research Innovation Center at Stanford (METRICS), Stanford University, Stanford, California, United States of America, 2 Department of Medicine, Stanford Prevention Research Center, Stanford, California, United States of America, 3 Department of Health Research and Policy, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California, United States of America, 4 Department of Statistics, Stanford University School of Humanities and Sciences, Stanford, California, United States of America

Published October 21, 2014

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PLOS MEDICINE

ESSAY

Why Most Clinical Research Is Not Useful

John P. A. Ioannidis^{1,2*}

Published: June 21, 2016

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Methodological issues

- La maggior parte degli effetti terapeutici sono modesti
- E' difficile distinguere gli effetti modesti dai bias
- Nei trial randomizzati effetti del trattamento influenzati da:
 - modalità di generazione della sequenza di assegnazione
 - occultamento della lista di randomizzazione
 - blinding, in particolare se outcome soggettivi
- La ricerca è distorta da numerosi bias

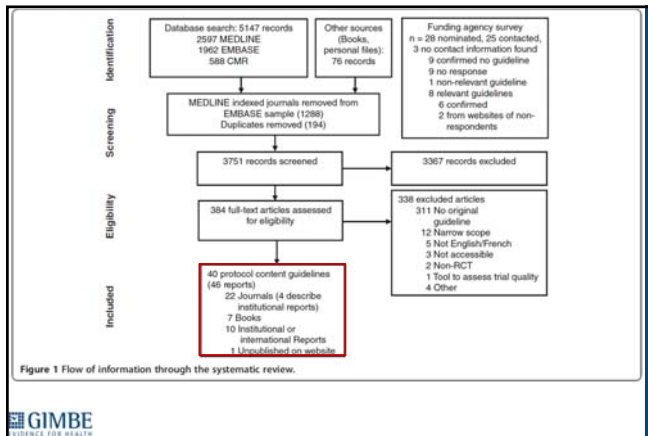
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The problems

- Development of protocols and improvement of designs
- Effect-to-bias ratio: la maggior parte degli effetti terapeutici sono modesti ed è difficile distinguerli dai bias
- Reproducibility practices and reward systems

Guidelines for randomized clinical trial protocol content: a systematic review

Jennifer M Tetzlaff^{1*}, An-Wen Chan², Jessica Kitchen², Margaret Sampson³, Andrea C. Tricco⁴ and David Moher¹



Linee guida protocolli trial clinici

- Notevole variabilità di obiettivi e raccomandazioni
- Metodologie di sviluppo spesso non descritte
- Raramente riportano:
 - adeguato coinvolgimento degli stakeholders
 - evidenze scientifiche a supporto delle raccomandazioni

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Standards & Guidelines OPEN ACCESS

SPIRIT Statement 2013: checklist per il protocollo dei trial clinici

An-Wen Chan¹, Jennifer M. Tetzlaff², Douglas G. Altman³, Andreas Laupacis⁴, Peter C. Gøtzsche⁵, Karmela Krljež-Jeric⁶, Asbjørn Hróbjartsson⁷, Howard Mann⁸, Kay Dickersin⁹, Jesse A. Berlin⁹, Caroline J. Doré¹⁰, Wendy R. Parulekar¹¹, William S.M. Summerskill¹², Trish Groves¹³, Kenneth F. Schulz¹⁴, Harold C. Sox¹⁵, Frank W. Rockhold¹⁶, Drummond Rennie¹⁷, David Moher¹⁸

www.gimbe.org/spirit

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Priorità raccomandazioni REWARD

5= Indispensabile
4= Priorità elevata
3= Priorità intermedia
2= Priorità bassa
1= Non è una priorità

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METODOLOGIA

5. Rendere pubblicamente disponibili per tutti gli studi disegnati e condotti: protocolli integrali, analisi pianificate o sequenza delle analisi previste e dati grezzi

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METODOLOGIA

Raccomandazione 5

Rating	Percentage
1	1%
2	2%
3	11%
4	34%
5	52%

Media **4.33** DS **± 0.83**

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The problems

- Development of protocols and improvement of designs
- **Effect-to-bias ratio:** la maggior parte degli effetti terapeutici sono modesti ed è difficile distinguerli dai bias
- Reproducibility practices and reward systems

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ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION

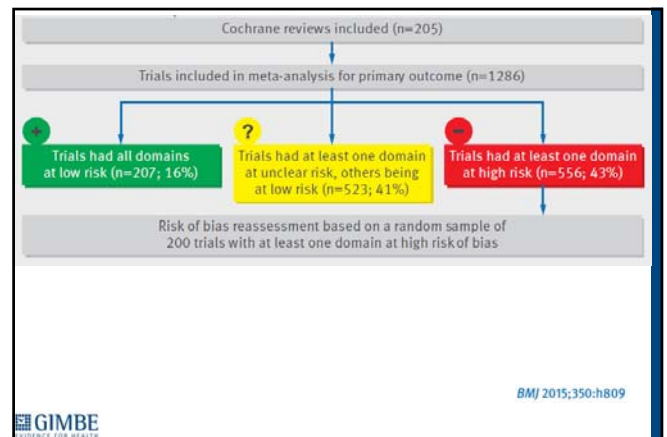
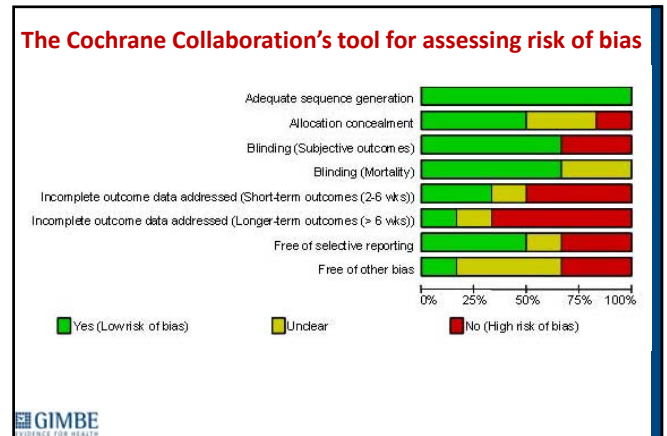
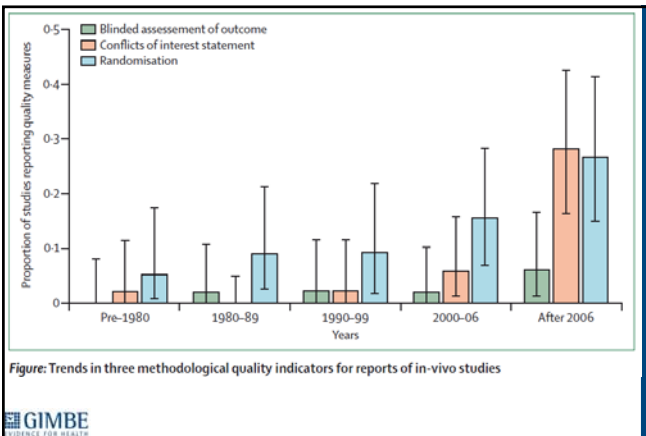
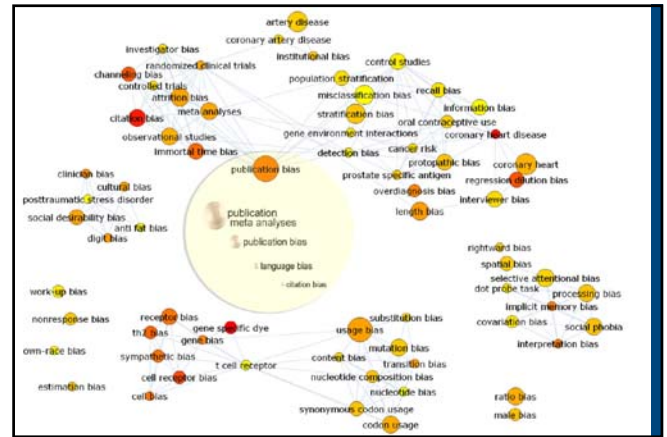
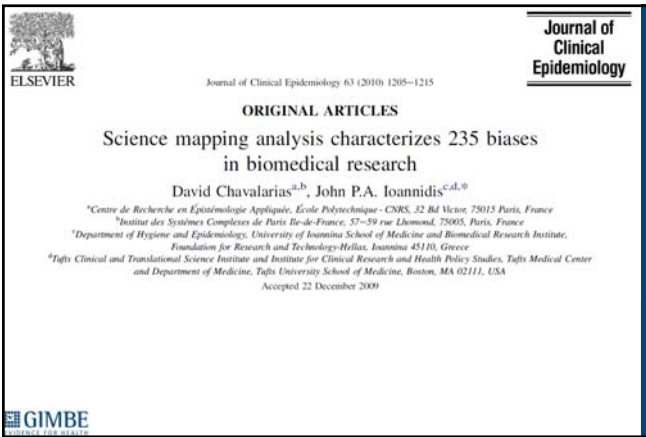
Empirical Evaluation of Very Large Treatment Effects of Medical Interventions

Tiago V. Pereira, PhD
Ralph L. Horwitz, MD
John P. A. Ioannidis, MD, DSc

JAMA. 2012;308(16):1676-1684

Conclusions Most large treatment effects emerge from small studies, and when additional trials are performed, the effect sizes become typically much smaller. Well-validated large effects are uncommon and pertain to nonfatal outcomes.

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WHAT THIS STUDY ADDS

We found that part of the waste related to inadequate methods could have been avoided by simple and inexpensive methodological adjustments
Such adjustments could decrease the risk of bias in half of trials at high risk of bias and could transform all domains at high risk to low risk in 12% trials (95% CI 7% to 18%)
In a simulation study correcting for incomplete reporting, this avoidable waste represented 42% (95% CI 36% to 49%).

BMJ 2015;350:h809

Priorità raccomandazioni REWARD

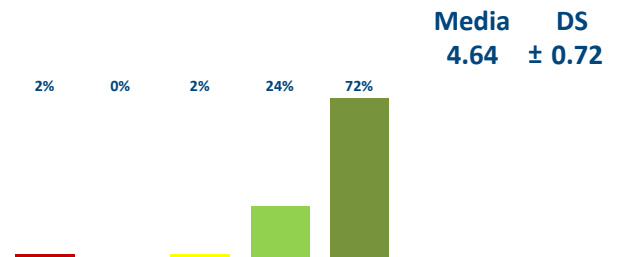


METODOLOGIA

6. Massimizzare il rapporto effetto/bias attraverso:
- aderenza a standard rigorosi nel disegno e nella conduzione degli studi
 - utilizzo di ricercatori con adeguate competenze di metodologia della ricerca
 - sviluppo professionale continuo
 - coinvolgimento di stakeholders senza conflitti di interesse

METODOLOGIA

Raccomandazione 6



The problems

- Development of protocols and improvement of designs
- Effect-to-bias ratio: la maggior parte degli effetti terapeutici sono modesti ed è difficile distinguerli dai bias
- Reproducibility practices and reward systems

A screenshot of the website for The Academy of Medical Sciences. The page title is "Reproducibility and reliability of biomedical research". The header includes the logo and the tagline "Improving health through research". The navigation menu includes Home, About, Fellows, Policy, Grants & Schemes, Publications, and More. The main content area features a grid of icons representing various research topics and a text box stating: "The Academy of Medical Sciences held a symposium in April 2015 to explore the challenges and opportunities for improving the reproducibility and reliability of biomedical research in the UK. The report was published in October 2015." The status is listed as "Launched" and "Ongoing".



Data dredging
Also known as p-hacking, this involves repeatedly searching a dataset or trying alternative analyses until a "significant" result is found.

Omitting null results
When scientists or journals decide not to publish studies unless results are statistically significant.

Underpowered study
Statistical power is the ability of an analysis to detect an effect, if the effect exists – an underpowered study is too small to reliably indicate whether or not an effect exists.

Errors
Technical errors may exist within a study, such as misidentified reagents or computational errors.

Issues

Underspecified methods
A study may be very robust, but its methods not shared with other scientists in enough detail, so others cannot precisely replicate it.

Weak experimental design
A study may have one or more methodological flaws that mean it is unlikely to produce reliable or valid results.

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Open data
Identify sharing results and the underlying data with other scientists.

Pre-registration
Publicly registering the protocol before a study is conducted.

Collaboration
Working with other research groups, both internally and externally.

Automation
Finding technological ways of standardising practices, thereby reducing the opportunity for human error.

Open methods
Publicly publishing the detail of a study protocol.

Post-publication review
Continuing discussion of a study in a public forum after it has been published (most are reviewed before publication).

Reporting guidelines
Guidelines and checklists that help researchers meet certain criteria when publishing studies.

Data dredging
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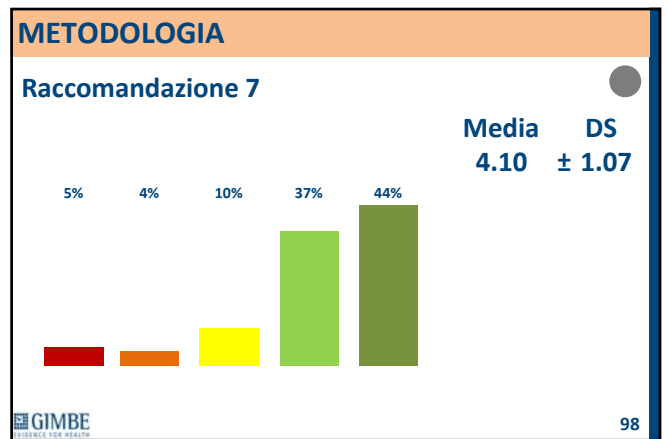
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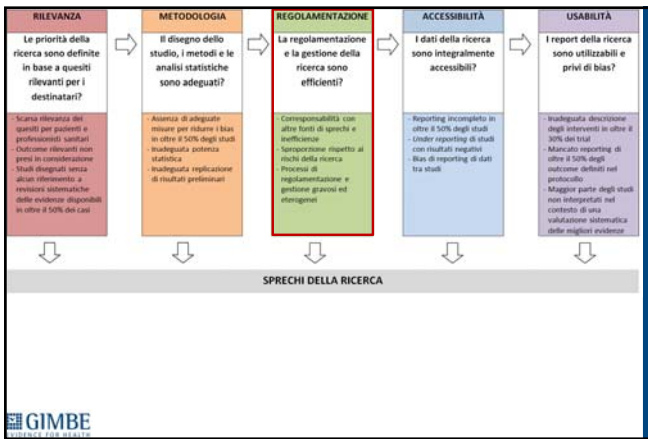
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METODOLOGIA

7. Incentivare (con finanziamenti, riconoscimenti accademici o di altra natura) pratiche di riproducibilità e studi riproducibili e sensibilizzare sulla necessità di replicare la ricerca

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Research: increasing value, reducing waste 3

Increasing value and reducing waste in biomedical research regulation and management

Rustam Al-Shahi Salman, Elaine Bellier, Jonathan Kagan, Elina Herrminki, Robert S Phillips, Julian Sawlescu, Malcolm Macleod, Janet Wisely, Iain Chalmers

Recommendations

- People regulating research should use their influence to reduce other causes of waste and inefficiency in research
 - Monitoring—people regulating, governing, and managing research should measure the extent to which the research they approve and manage complies with the other recommendations in this Series
- Regulators and policy makers should work with researchers, patients, and health professionals to streamline and harmonize the laws, regulations, guidelines, and processes that govern whether and how research can be done, and ensure that they are proportionate to the plausible risks associated with the research
 - Monitoring—regulators, individuals who govern and manage research, and researchers should measure and report delays and inconsistencies that result from failures to streamline and harmonize regulations
- Researchers and research managers should increase the efficiency of recruitment, retention, data monitoring, and data sharing in research through the use of research designs known to reduce inefficiencies, and do additional research to learn how efficiency can be increased
 - Monitoring—researchers and methodologists should do research to identify ways to improve the efficiency of biomedical research
- Everyone, particularly individuals responsible for health-care systems, can help to improve the efficiency of clinical research by promoting integration of research in everyday clinical practice
 - Monitoring—people responsible for management of health-care systems or research should measure the proportions of patients who are enrolled in research

REGOLAMENTAZIONE

La regolamentazione e la gestione della ricerca sono efficienti?

- Corresponsabilità con altre fonti di sprechi e inefficienze
- Sproporzione rispetto ai rischi della ricerca
- Processi di regolamentazione e gestione gravosi ed eterogenei

CURRENT OPINION

H1 J Pharm Med 2021; 21 (1): 30-40
1064-0221/21/0000-0000\$14.00/0
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Regulation of Therapeutic Research is Compromising the Interests of Patients¹

Iain Chalmers
James Lind Library, James Lind Initiative, Oxford, UK



Tre motivazioni principali

- Approvazione di protocolli di trial senza alcuna rilevanza clinica
- Approvazione di protocolli di trial con disegno inadeguato
- Incapacità di mettere in atto azioni concrete per ridurre il bias di pubblicazione









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Conference Report OPEN ACCESS

Sperimentazioni cliniche: i comitati etici devono proteggere i pazienti da profitti e conflitti

Antonio Cartabellotta¹, Cristiana Forni¹, Corrado Iacono¹
¹Presidente Fondazione GIMBE, ²Responsabile del Centro di Ricerca delle Professioni Sanitarie, Istituto Ortopedico Rizzoli, ³Dipartimento Farmaceutico AUSL di Bologna

Warning to trial protocols...

-  ...che non fanno riferimento a revisioni sistematiche
-  ...con outcome surrogati, di rilevanza clinica non provata
-  ...in cui lo sponsor mantiene la proprietà dei dati
-  ...vs placebo in presenza di trattamenti efficaci
-  ...con disegno di non-inferiorità
-  ...di disseminazione (*seeding trials*)

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Tabella 2. Protocolli di trial a rischio di alimentare gli sprechi della ricerca, senza migliorare la salute dei pazienti

Red flag	Media (DS)*
Mancato riferimento a revisioni sistematiche per giustificare la necessità dello studio	3.22 (± 0.70)
Misurazione di outcome surrogati, di rilevanza clinica non provata	3.38 (± 0.73)
Proprietà dei dati mantenuta dallo sponsor	3.20 (± 0.89)
Confronto vs placebo in presenza di trattamenti efficaci	3.56 (± 0.76)
Disegno di non inferiorità	3.01 (± 0.77)
Trial di disseminazione	3.28 (± 0.75)

*Valori calcolati secondo uno score di rischio 1-4 (1= nessuno; 2=lieve; 3= moderato; 4= elevato)

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Seeding trials (trial di "disseminazione")

- Finti studi scientifici il cui vero obiettivo non è produrre nuove conoscenze, ma far familiarizzare i medici con l'uso di un farmaco in arrivo sul mercato
- Non sono etici ed espongono i partecipanti a inutili rischi
- N° elevato di centri sperimentali
- Pochi pazienti richiesti per ogni centro
- Compensi spropositati



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Annals of Internal Medicine

EDITORIAL

Seeding Trials: Just Say "No"

Harold C. Sox, MD
Editor

Ann Intern Med. 2008;149:279-280.

Drummond Rennie, MD
Deputy Editor, JAMA



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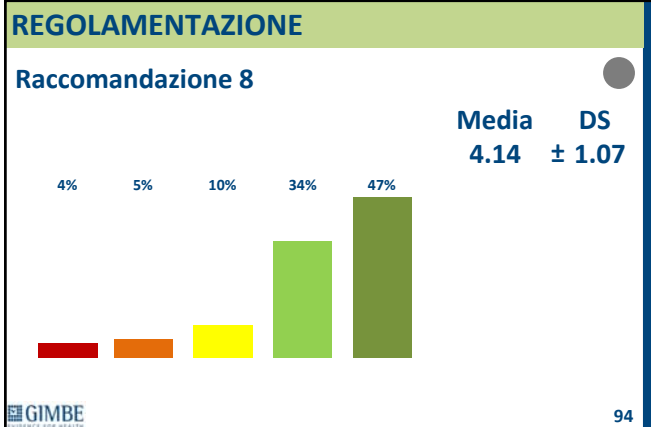
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REGOLAMENTAZIONE

8. I soggetti coinvolti nella regolamentazione della ricerca, forti del loro ruolo, dovrebbero limitare altre cause di sprechi e inefficienze

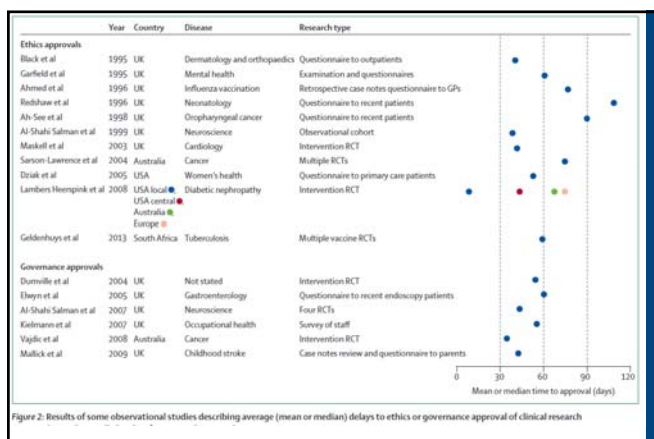
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Panel 1: An example from Sweden of the bureaucracy involved in applications for central research ethics committee approval

In 2010, a group of researchers in Sweden wanted to pool data from several cohort studies to identify risk factors for subarachnoid haemorrhage. They identified about 20 studies, and spent about 300 h contacting all investigators and getting signed data-sharing agreements and data security processes agreed. Sweden has a central research ethics committee to approve projects. The team recorded the time taken for each step of the approval process. About 200 h of office time was spent on the ethics approval and resubmission process alone. The research ethics committee wanted to see all information that the participants of all cohorts had been given about the purpose of the study. These documents had to be provided as 18 copies and submitted manually. It took the team 6 months to collect all the information sheets from the 20 different cohorts, several of which began recruitment in the 1960s and for which little knowledge about what information was given by whom to whom in the recruitment phase was poor. The research ethics committee eventually had the team advertise in national newspapers about the pooling project, listing all original cohorts so that all individuals who did not want the team to use their data for this project could withdraw their consent for the study. Not one participant withdrew. It took more than 3 years to reach the stage of pooling data from the cohorts, ready for analysis.

Figure 1: Paperwork required for regulatory review of the research described in panel 1



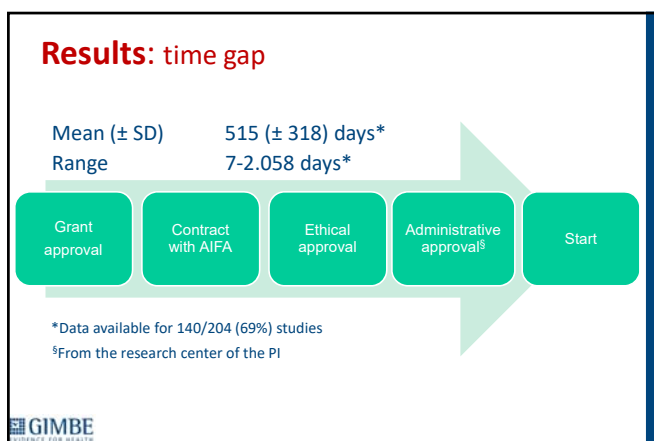
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EvidenceLive

University of Oxford **June 22 - 24 2016**

Waste in independent drug research in Italy: a cross-sectional study

Nino Cartabellotta
GIMBE Foundation



LA RICERCA CLINICA COME INVESTIMENTO PER L'ITALIA, DALLE PAROLE ALL'AZIONE - UNA PROPOSTA IN 10 PUNTI

DOCUMENTO SULLA RICERCA CLINICA DA PROMOTORI NO PROFIT

Elaborato a seguito del 4° Congresso Nazionale sulla Ricerca Indipendente in Italia

RIMA Roma 8-9 Marzo 2016

Novembre 2016

Per prepararsi al Regolamento EU

- Utilizzo dei dati della ricerca clinica
- Assicurazione per la sperimentazione clinica
- Protezione dei dati personali pazienti
- Utilizzo materiale biologico residuo a scopo di ricerca
- Idoneità centri partecipanti a sperimentazioni cliniche
- Valutazione delle sperimentazioni e comitati etici

La ricerca no profit e il SSN

- Ruolo della ricerca no profit per il SSN
- Formazione per la ricerca: metodologia, procedure
- Sistemi premianti, re-investimento utili da ricerca
- Figure professionali di supporto alla ricerca

Priorità raccomandazioni REWARD

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REGOLAMENTAZIONE

9. Enti regolatori e policy maker dovrebbero collaborare con ricercatori, pazienti e professionisti sanitari per snellire e armonizzare normative, regolamenti, linee guida e processi che regolano approvazione e conduzione della ricerca, assicurando che siano proporzionati ai rischi verosimili per i partecipanti

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REGOLAMENTAZIONE

Raccomandazione 9

Priorità	Percentuale
1= Non è una priorità	2%
2= Priorità bassa	0%
3= Priorità intermedia	7%
4= Priorità elevata	15%
5= Indispensabile	76%

Media **4.62** DS **± 0.80**

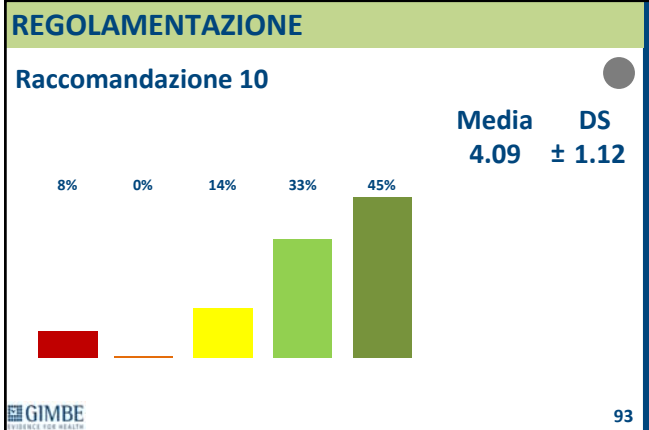
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REGOLAMENTAZIONE

10. Ricercatori e soggetti coinvolti nella gestione della ricerca dovrebbero:

- aumentare l'efficienza dei processi di reclutamento, mantenimento, monitoraggio e condivisione dei dati della ricerca, utilizzando disegni di studio in grado di ridurre le inefficienze
- condurre ulteriori studi sui metodi per aumentare l'efficienza

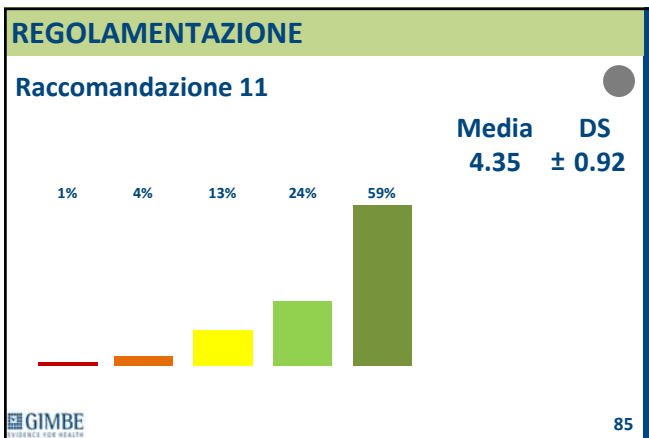
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REGOLAMENTAZIONE

11. Tutti, in particolare chi gestisce organizzazioni sanitarie, possono contribuire a migliorare l'efficienza della ricerca clinica, promuovendo l'integrazione dei suoi risultati nella pratica clinica quotidiana

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SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

What Makes Clinical Research Ethical?

Ezekiel J. Emanuel, MD, PhD
 David Wendler, PhD
 Christine Grady, PhD

JAMA. 2000;283:2701-2711

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Table 2. Seven Requirements for Determining Whether a Research Trial Is Ethical*

Requirement	Explanation	Justifying Ethical Values	Expertise for Evaluation
Social or scientific value	Evaluation of a treatment, intervention, or theory that will improve health and well-being or increase knowledge	Science resources and nonexploitation	Scientific knowledge; citizen's understanding of social priorities
Scientific validity	Use of accepted scientific principles and methods, including statistical techniques, to produce reliable and valid data	Science resources and nonexploitation	Scientific and statistical knowledge; knowledge of condition and population to assess feasibility
Fair subject selection	Selection of subjects so that stigmatized and vulnerable individuals are not targeted for risky research and the rich and socially powerful not favored for potentially beneficial research	Justice	Scientific knowledge; ethical and legal knowledge
Favorable risk-benefit ratio	Minimization of risks; enhancement of potential benefits; risks to the subject are proportionate to the benefits to the subject and society	Nonmaleficence, beneficence, and nonexploitation	Scientific knowledge; citizen's understanding of social values
Independent review	Review of the design of the research (ie, its proposed subject population, and risk-benefit ratio) by individuals unaffiliated with the research	Public accountability; minimizing influence of potential conflicts of interest	Intellectual, financial, and otherwise independent researchers; scientific and ethical knowledge
Informed consent	Provision of information to subjects about purpose of the research, its procedures, potential risks, benefits, and alternatives, so that the individual understands the information and can make a voluntary decision whether to enroll and continue to participate	Respect for subject autonomy	Scientific knowledge; ethical and legal knowledge
Respect for potential and enrolled subjects	Respect for subjects by (1) permitting withdrawal from the research; (2) protecting privacy through confidentiality; (3) informing subjects of newly discovered risks or benefits; (4) informing subjects of results of clinical research; (5) maintaining welfare of subjects	Respect for subject autonomy and welfare	Scientific knowledge; ethical and legal knowledge; knowledge of particular subject population

*Ethical requirements are listed in chronological order from conception of research to its formulation and implementation.