

Survey in CRG statisticians

- There are 52 CRGs
- 9 do not appear to have statistical support
- My impression is that others do not get regular support
- Nevertheless, *75 statisticians* appear to provide support to CRGs (according to Archie and personal communication)
- Only 19 (=25%) replied to the survey

Strategies for heterogeneity

- Inspection
 - I², plot, p-value (everybody)
- Definition of 'high heterogeneity'
 - Cutpoint for I² (50% or 70%) (9/19)
 - Nothing – judge by context (6/19)
 - One on p-value
 - One SS Q+ I²>25% (but doesn't like it much)
 - One want more training

Strategies for synthesis

- Do meta-analysis
 - Typically **9**
 - Considering clinical, statistical heterogeneity and/or number of trials **3**
 - No rule **1**
 - Let the authors decide **1**
 - I² cutpoint **1**
- RE vs FE
 - Usually RE **6**
 - Usually FE **4**
 - What authors want **3**
 - Complex strategy based on clinical, statistical heterogeneity and/or number of trials **2**
 - Defined in advance **1**
 - Based on I² **1**

Process of reviewing

- Time=6.5 (median) range 1-20
- Check data
 - Sample/sometimes/somehow **4**
 - No (unless co-author) **9**
- Recompensing
 - Payment **4**
 - Co-author, collaboration **7**
 - Funding for events **6**

Strategies to attract statisticians

As suggested by responders

- Payment of their time
- Payment for Colloquia and courses
- Co-authoring
- Editorial board membership
- Convince them that it is important
- Capture them young
- Have coordinating editors who value the input