A quantitative framework for balancing ethical tradeoffs in vaccine study design



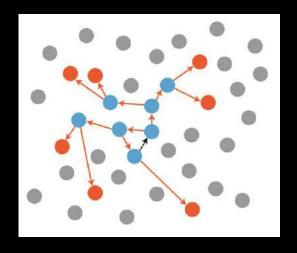
Steven Bellan
Assistant Professor in Epidemiology & Biostatistics
University of Georgia

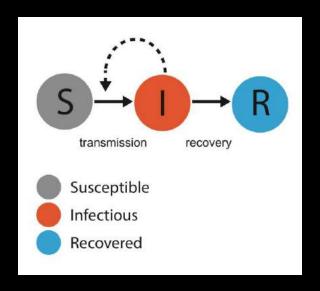
DAIDD 2017

Transmission Modeling

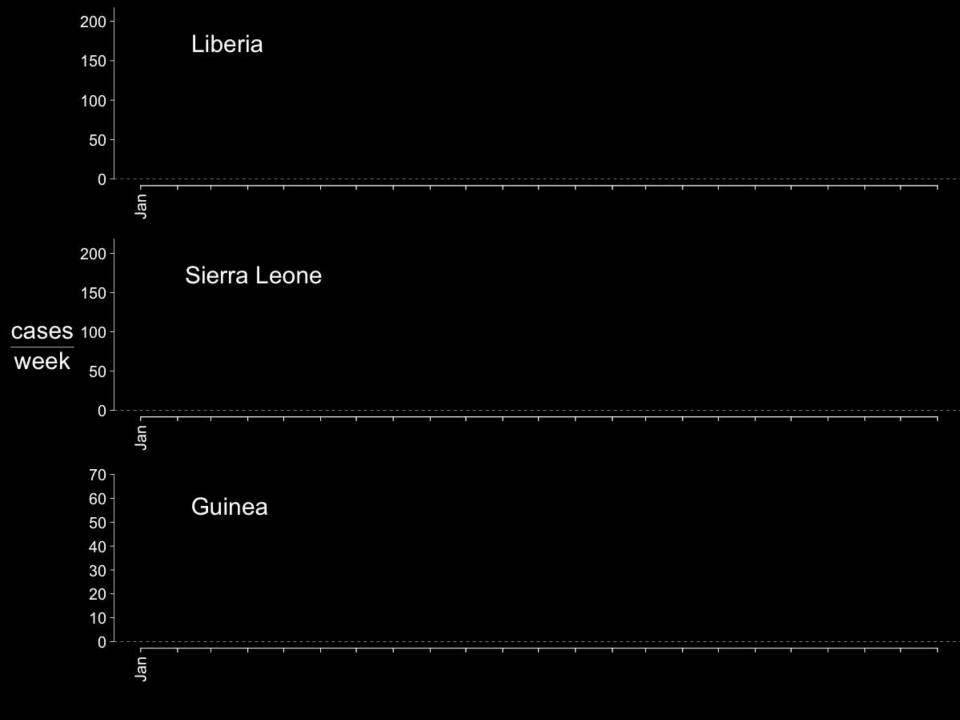
individual processes

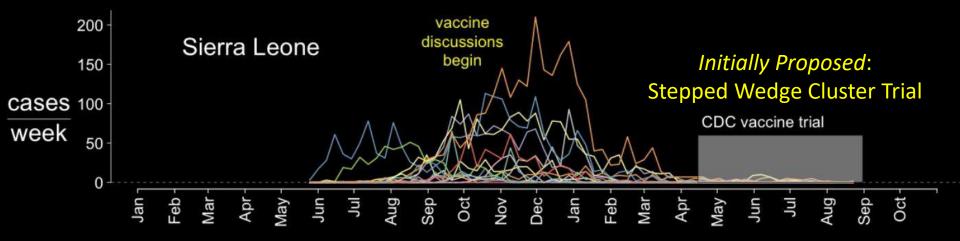
population patterns





Explore study design of epidemic processes through simulation

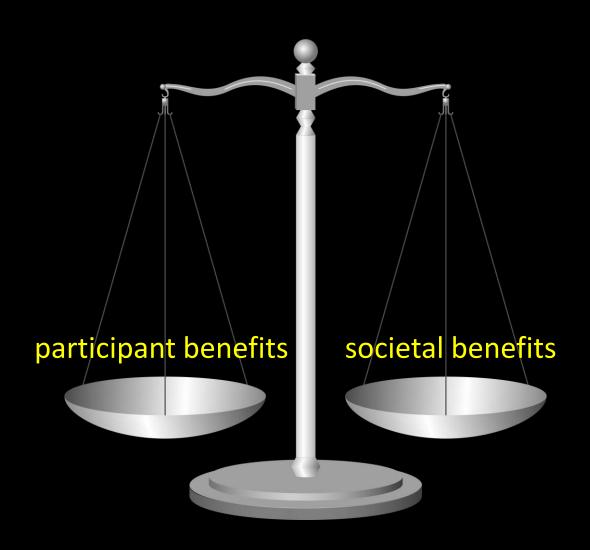


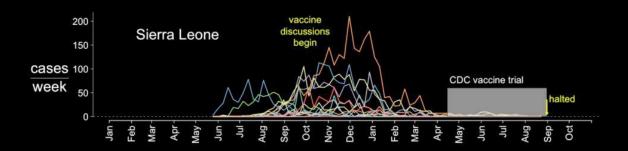


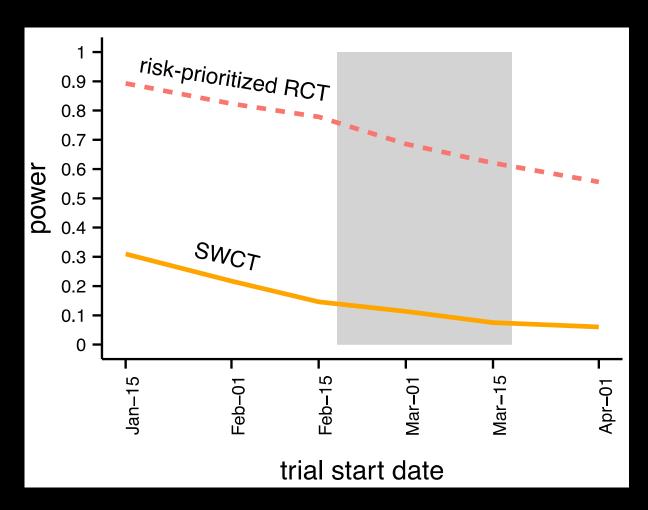
Dual goals

Evaluate & Roll Out

Balancing Rollout and Evaluation







Bellan et al. 2015. Lancet Infectious Diseases.

But experimental interventions are unproven...

Therapeutic Misconception or Probabilistic Benefit

Relaxing the dichotomy of clinical equipoise

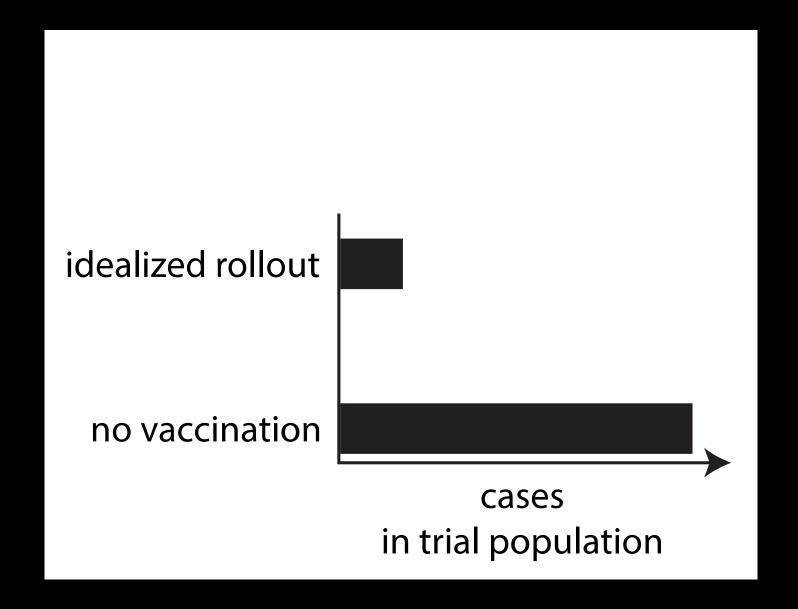
explore quantitative tradeoffs via simulation

power, speed, bias

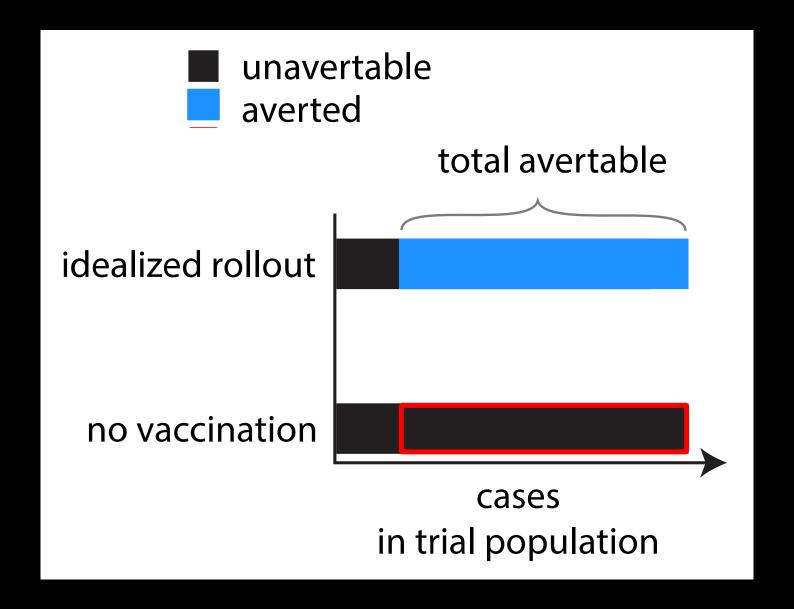
VS

risk spent

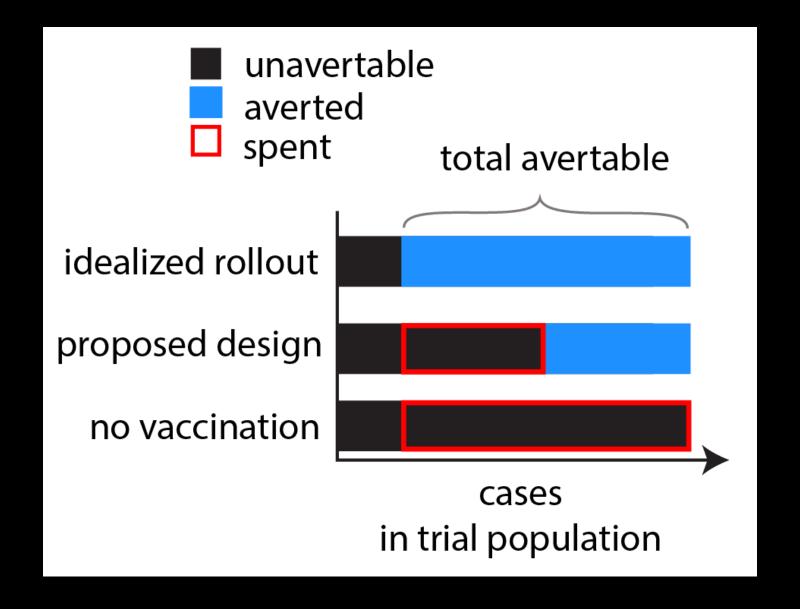
Counterfactual Risk Partitioning



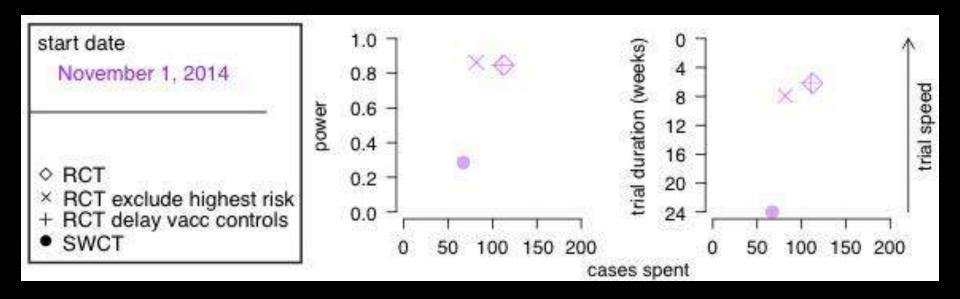
Counterfactual Risk Partitioning



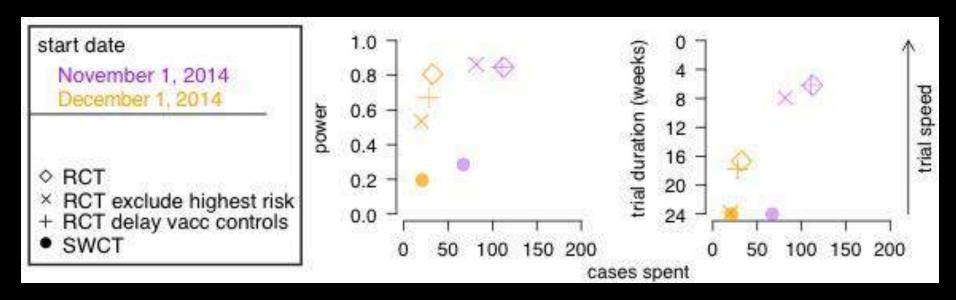
Counterfactual Risk Partitioning

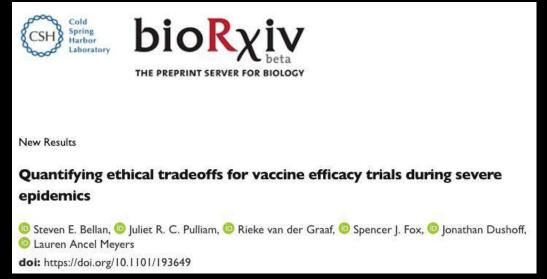


Information versus Risk Spent



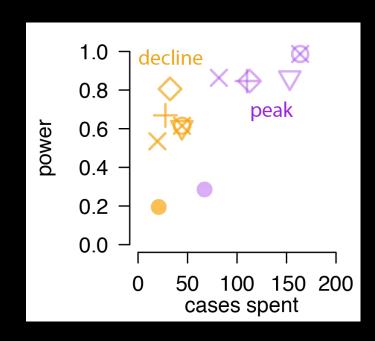
Information versus Risk Spent





Reducing Risk Spent

- Indirect:
 - Faster trial
- Direct:
 - Delayed vaccination
 - Presumptive vaccination of high infection risk individuals



CONTINUOUS TREATMENT OF INDIVIDUALS

DISCRETE TREATMENT OF INDIVIDUALS

(averages, proportions, or population densities)

CONTINUOUS TIME

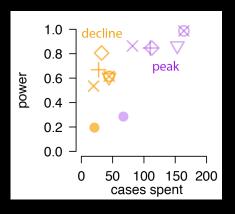
DISCRETE TIME

CONTINUOUS TIME

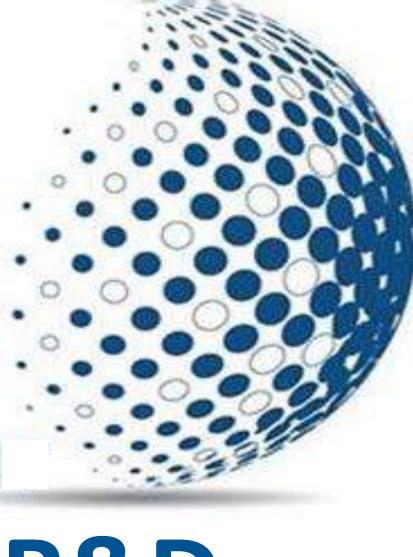
DISCRETE TIME

CONTINUOUS TIME

DISCRETE TIME



The Blueprint **Clims** to reduce the time between the PHEIC of international concern and the availability of effective tests, vaccines and medicines







A Blueprint - Workplan on Efficacy Trials during PHE

March 2016: 1st Consultation in Chamonix, France

→ Workplan: 4 Action Points

- G1 Grid of major study designs / Prof. Longini
 - Comprehensive methodological discussion paper on vaccine trial designs
- G2 Decision Tree / Dr Bellan
 - A guide for experts and stakeholders during trial design
- G3 Trial Simulator / Prof. Brisson
 - Facilitate assessment of trial feasibility using realistic outbreak scenarios
- G4 Generic Protocols / Dr Henao Restrepo
 - Annotated pathogen-specific generic protocols for various study designs



vaxeval.com

(work in progress)



Collaborators & Acknowledgements

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