

Tables A and B support the discussion in:

Scanlan JP. Study shows different adjustment approaches rather than different relative and absolute perspectives. *Journal Review* May 1, 2008: <http://journalreview.org/v2/articles/view/17591645.html>, responding to Khang YH, Lynch JW, Jung-Choi K, Cho HJ. *Heart* 2008;94:75-82.

In Table A below, the columns are:

Scenario: the situation reflected in the row (Actual = actual rates and related figures; Adj1 = rates and related figures according to adjustment technique whereby the risk profile of advantaged group is attributed to the disadvantaged group; Adj2 = rates and related figures according to the adjustment technique employed in Khang et al. where rates of both groups reflect situation with no risk factors

AGMR: mortality rate of advantaged group (30-44 age group)

DGMR: mortality rate of disadvantaged group (55-64 age group)

AGSR: survival rate of advantaged group

DGSR: survival rate of disadvantaged group

AD = absolute difference between rates

DGEMRR: excess mortality risk of the advantaged group in relative terms

$((DGMR)/[AGMR])-1$

DGSDR = survival disadvantage of the disadvantaged group in relative terms

$(1-[DGSR]/[AGSR])$

%ADRed = percentage reduction in absolute difference (AD) achieved by the adjustment method

%ERMRed = percentage reduction in DGEMRR achieved by the adjustment method

%RSDRed = percentage reduction in DGSDR achieved by the adjustment method

Table A: Effects of different adjustment approaches on absolute differences between rates, relative differences in mortality rates, and relative differences in survival rates.

Scenario	AGMR	DGMR	AGSR	DGSR	AD	DGEMRR	DGSDR	%ADRed	%ERMRed	%RSDRed
Actual	1.35%	7.97%	98.65%	92.03%	6.61%	488.46%	6.70%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Adj1	1.35%	7.33%	98.65%	92.67%	5.97%	441.10%	6.05%	9.70%	9.70%	9.70%
Adj2	1.19%	6.95%	98.81%	93.05%	5.77%	486.32%	5.84%	12.78%	0.44%	12.93%

In Table B below the columns are:

Risk code = risk level in terms of L,M,H for low, medium, high, according to blood pressure risk category in Table 2 of Khang et al. ordered from lowest risk to highest risk

Risk category = blood pressure risk category in Table 2 of Khang et al. ordered from lowest risk to highest risk

AGDist = proportion of advantaged group in each category

DGDist = proportion of disadvantaged group in each category

AGMR = mortality rate of advantaged group (30-44 age group)

DGMR = mortality rate of disadvantaged group (55-64 agegroup)

AGSR = survival rate of advantaged group

DGSR = survival rate of disadvantaged group

AD = absolute difference between rates

DGEMRR = excess mortality risk of the advantaged group in relative terms
 $((DGMR)/[AGMR])-1$

DGSDR = survival disadvantage of the disadvantaged group in relative terms
 $(1-(1-[DGMR])/(1-AGMR)))$

AD = absolute difference between rates

DGEMRR = excess mortality risk of the advantaged group in relative terms
 $((DGMR)/[AGMR])-1$

DGSDR = survival disadvantage of the disadvantaged group in relative terms
 $([DGSR]/[AGSR])$

Table B: Mortality and survival rates of advantaged and disadvantaged groups (defined by each) within each blood pressure risk group with absolute and relative differences between rates.

Risk Code	Risk Category	AGDist	DGDist	AGMR	DGMR	AGSR	DGSR	AD	DGEMRR	DGSDR
L	<140 SBP/<90 DPB	74.70%	48.80%	1.19%	6.95%	98.81%	93.05%	5.77%	486.32%	5.84%
M	140-159 SBP/90-99 DPB	21.10%	34.20%	1.63%	7.94%	98.37%	92.06%	6.30%	385.93%	6.41%
H	>159SBP/>99 DPB	4.20%	17.10%	2.94%	10.87%	97.06%	89.13%	7.94%	270.33%	8.18%