

EBM Cheat Sheets: Diagnostic Testing

Survival Statistics Diagnostic Testing: Cheat Sheet

Definitions and the 2x2 table

“Gold Standard” Result			
	Condition Present	Condition Absent	
Positive Test	a True Positive	b False Positive	a+b
Negative Test	c False Negative	d True Negative	c+d
	a+c	b+d	a+b+c+d

PPV* = $a/(a+b)$
portion of (+) test results that are correct

NPV* = $d/(c+d)$
portion of (-) test results that are correct

Prevalence = $(a+c)/(a+b+c+d)$

Sensitivity = $a/(a+c)$
portion of people with disease who correctly test (+)

Specificity = $d/(b+d)$
portion of people without disease who correctly test (-)

Accuracy = $(a+d)/(a+b+c+d)$

(*denotes test is affected by disease prevalence)

Sensitivity

PID positivity in disease for sensitivity
test low sensitivity-> miss cases (false negative results)
SnN(-)OUT- negative rules out disease

Specificity

NIH negativity in health for specificity
test low specificity-> incorrectly labels healthy people as having condition (false positives)
SpP(+)IN- positive rules in disease

2X2 table example:
Population size = 100,000
Sensitivity =90%
Specificity =90%

disease prevalence = 1%				disease prevalence = 0.1%			
	(+) disease	(-) disease		(+) disease	(-) disease		
(+ test)	900	9,900	PPV= 8.3%	90	9,990	PPV= 0.9%	
(- test)	100	89,100		10	89,910		
	1,000	99,000	100,000	100	99,900	100,000	
11 false (+) for every true (+)				111 false (+) for every true (+)			

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Survival Statistics Diagnostic Testing: Cheat Sheet (cont.)

Likelihood ratios

combine sensitivity and specificity into one measure

Conceptual framework: in people with disease and without disease and we are trying to determine the discriminating ability of the test

Definitions of likelihood ratio (e.g. LR+ =10):

- odds of disease given a test result
- if the test is positive than the odds of disease is increased 10-fold
- a ratio that is a coefficient that modifies your pretest probability to generate post-test probability
- likelihood ratio of 10 means that that result is ten times more likely to occur in patients with disease than without
- a LR is a ratio which compares the likelihood of a particular test result for patients with disease to the likelihood of that same result to patients without
- a likelihood ratio is a ratio of likelihoods

test	disease (+)	Likelihood 1	disease (-)	Likelihood 2	Likelihood Ratio (L1/L2)
(+)	a	$(a/a+c)$	b	$(b/b+d)$	$(a/a+c)/(b/b+d)$
(-)	c	$(c/a+c)$	d	$(d/b+d)$	$(c/a+c)/(d/b+d)$

Relating LR to Sensitivity and Specificity: sometimes you will want to convert sensitivity and specificity directly into LR(+) or LR (-).

positive likelihood ratio $(a/a+c)/(b/b+d) = \text{sensitivity}/(1-\text{specificity})$

negative likelihood ratio $(c/a+c)/(d/b+d) = (1-\text{sensitivity})/\text{specificity}$