Programme 27 mars 2017



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| **Lundi**  **12h30/13h30** | **Salle 7A-8-739**  **Salon d’accueil batiment C – Niveau 8** |

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| La **Pre Georgia SALANTI** de l’IMSP de Berneprésentera :      **What 40 years of research can tell us about the effects of antidepressants –**  **and evaluating the assumptions of Network Meta-Analysis** | Over 20 different pharmacological interventions are available for treating patients with major depression. Synthesis of data from studies has the potential to reveal their differences in efficacy and acceptability. Network meta-analysis is a powerful tool that can be used to synthesise evidence about competing interventions. Its application in the field of antidepressants has been challenging primarily because of the the risk of publication bias and the violation of the transitivity assumption being high. Using a network that includes over 500 trials we evaluate the evidence about all new-generation antidepressants. When exploring the validity of network meta-analysis, we found that a) in contrast to previous findings the placebo response remains stable over time b) the probability of receiving placebo considerably alters the treatment effectiveness. More specifically, higher probability of receiving placebo in a randomised trial increased the chances of dropout and decreased the absolute response of patients to active antidepressants. This might be explained by decreased patients’ expectations and the widespread use of the last-observvation carried-forward approach to record treatment response in combination with larger dropout rates in placebo-controlled trials. The probability of receiving placebo did not impact on the dropout due to adverse events. |