



**PROTECT**



Pharmacoepidemiological Research on Outcomes of Therapeutics by a European Consortium

# **Benefit-Risk Integration and Representation**

---

IMI-PROTECT Symposium  
20<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Work Package 5 and 6

# Outline

Title	Presenters
Recommendations of the PROTECT Benefit-Risk Group: A roadmap in pursuit of robustness, transparency and harmonisation.	Deborah Ashby
Benefit-risk assessment: a real-life experience	Billy Amzal
In sickness and in health, and for the greater good: Involving patients and the public in benefit-risk decision-making	Susan Talbot
WP6-WS2 VISUALizE: Visualizing Uncertainty Among Laypersons and Experts	Andrea Beyer
The past, the present and the future: Impact assessment of a multi-stakeholders collaboration in Europe (and beyond) [Summary and Panel discussion]	Deborah Ashby, Hans-Georg Eichler, Hans Hillege

---

Deborah Ashby

**A ROADMAP IN PURSUIT OF ROBUSTNESS,  
TRANSPARENCY AND HARMONISATION  
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PROTECT BENEFIT-RISK  
GROUP**

# Acknowledgement



- The research leading to these results was conducted as part of the PROTECT consortium (Pharmacoepidemiological Research on Outcomes of Therapeutics by a European ConsorTium, [www.imi-protect.eu](http://www.imi-protect.eu)) which is a public-private partnership coordinated by the European Medicines Agency.
- The PROTECT project has received support from the Innovative Medicine Initiative Joint Undertaking ([www.imi.europa.eu](http://www.imi.europa.eu)) under Grant Agreement n° 115004, resources of which are composed of financial contribution from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) and EFPIA companies' in kind contribution.

# Disclaimer

---

“The processes described and conclusions drawn from the work presented herein relate solely to the testing of methodologies and representations for the evaluation of benefit and risk of medicines.

This report neither replaces nor is intended to replace or comment on any regulatory decisions made by national regulatory agencies, nor the European Medicines Agency.”

# Evidence Based Medicine

---

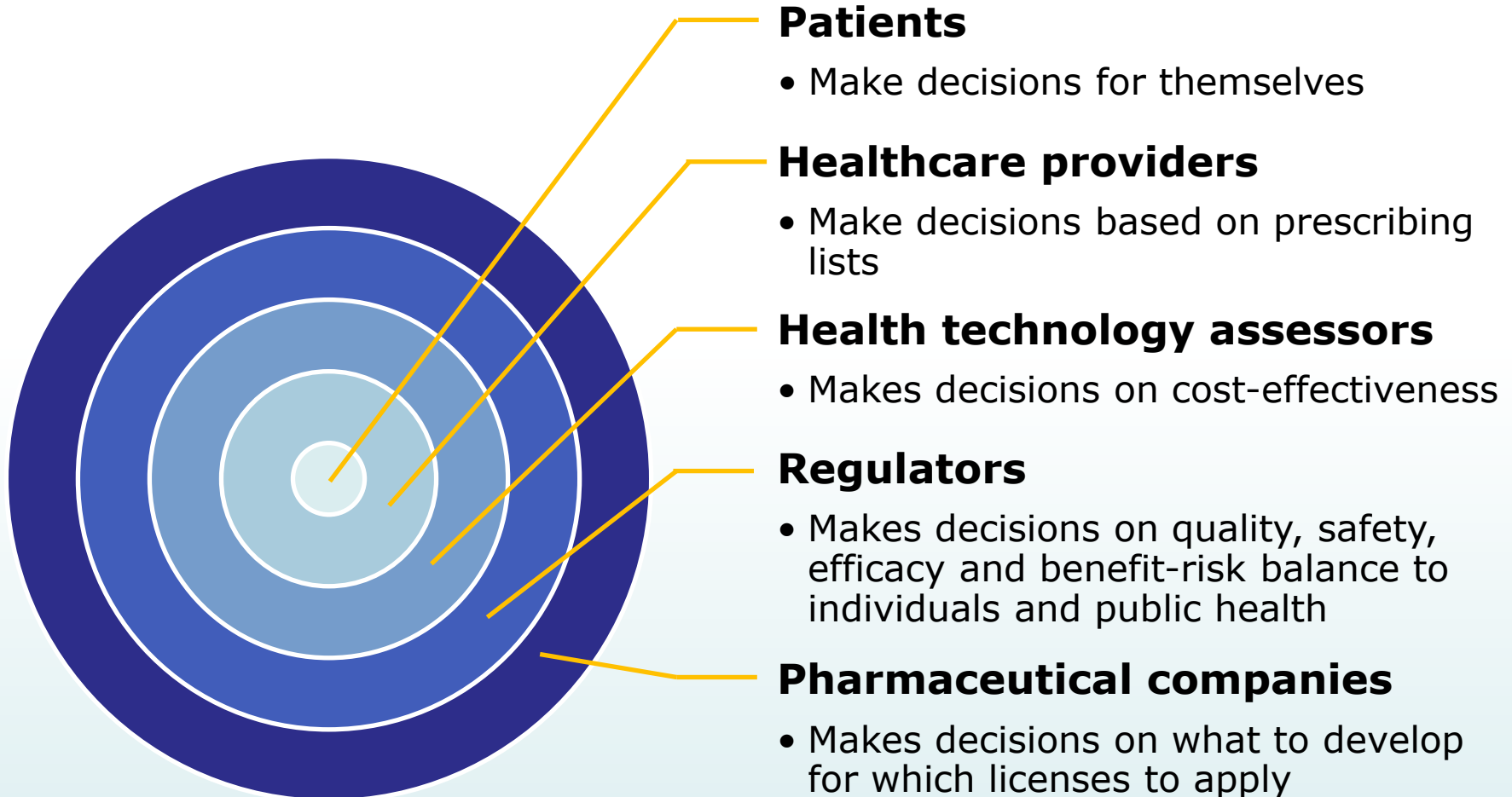
*"EBM is the conscientious explicit, and judicious use of **current best evidence** in **making decisions** about the care of individual patients" ... taking into account... "individual patients predicaments, rights and preferences using best evidence from clinically **relevant** research."*

Sackett et al, 1996



# Decision makers – hierarchical?

---



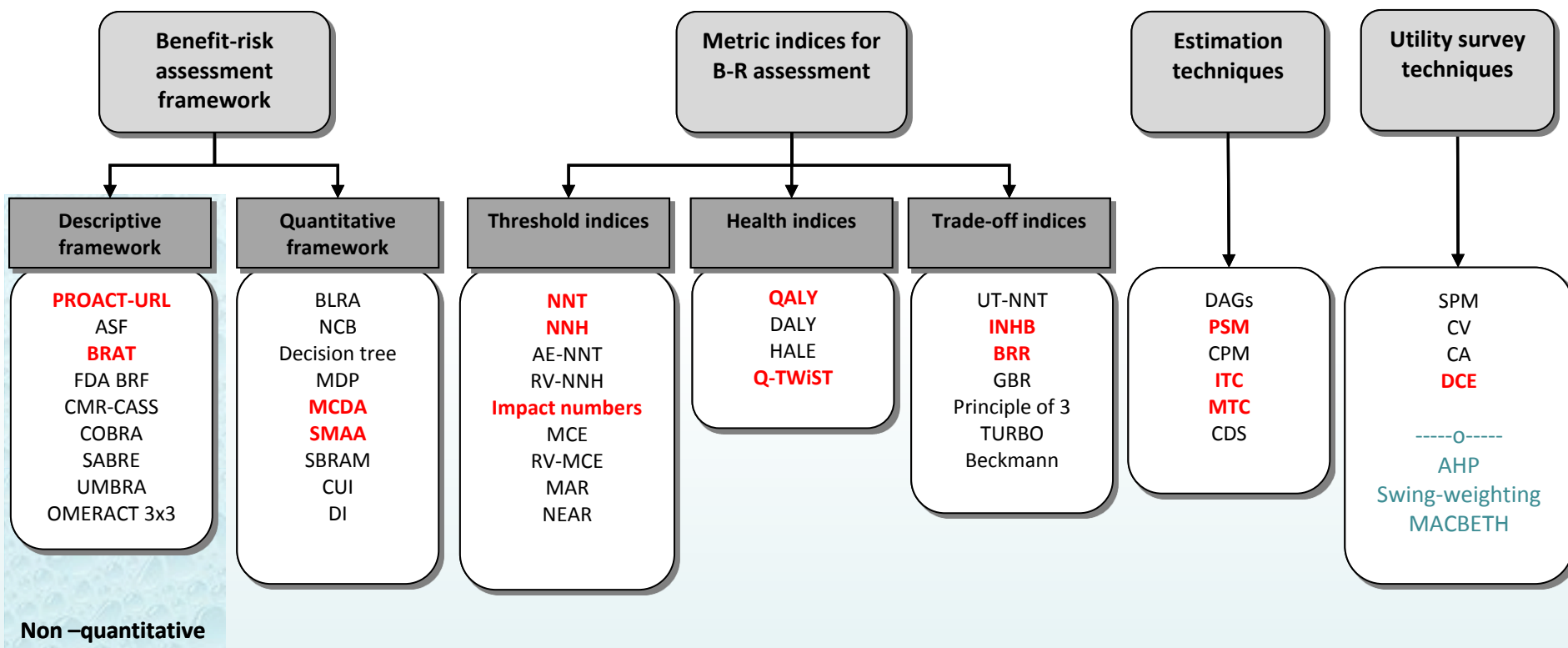
# IMI-PROTECT Benefit-Risk Group

---

- IMI-PROTECT Benefit-Risk Group conducted a:
  - Benefit-Risk Methodology Review,
  - Executed a Visualisation Review in two stages.
  - Applied selected Methodologies and Visualizations to six discrete case studies, conducted in two waves
    - ♦ Rimonabant, Telithromycin, Efalizumab, Natalizumab
    - ♦ Rosiglitazone, Warfarin (W2 Rimonabant, W2 Natalizumab)
  - Created a Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) Workstream to develop a toolbox for incorporating PPI into medical benefit-risk decision making.



# Methodologies available



# Case studies: Methodologies

	Rimonabant	Telithromycin	Efalizumab	Natalizumab	Rosiglitazone	Warfarin
PrOACT-URL	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
BRAT	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
MCDA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
SMAA	✓	✓				✓
NNT & NNH	✓			✓		
Impact Number	✓					
QALY						
Q-TWiST						
INHB	✓					
BRR	✓	✓	✓	✓		
PSM	✓	✓		✓		
MTC	✓			✓		
DCE	✓					
Other:	Direct utility elicitation, Dashboard, MCDA simulations	SBRAM, Swing-weighting	Decision conferencing	Decision conferencing MACBETH, AHP	Decision conferencing Probabilistic MCDA model	Individual benefit risk assessment (NCB)

# Efalizumab case study

---

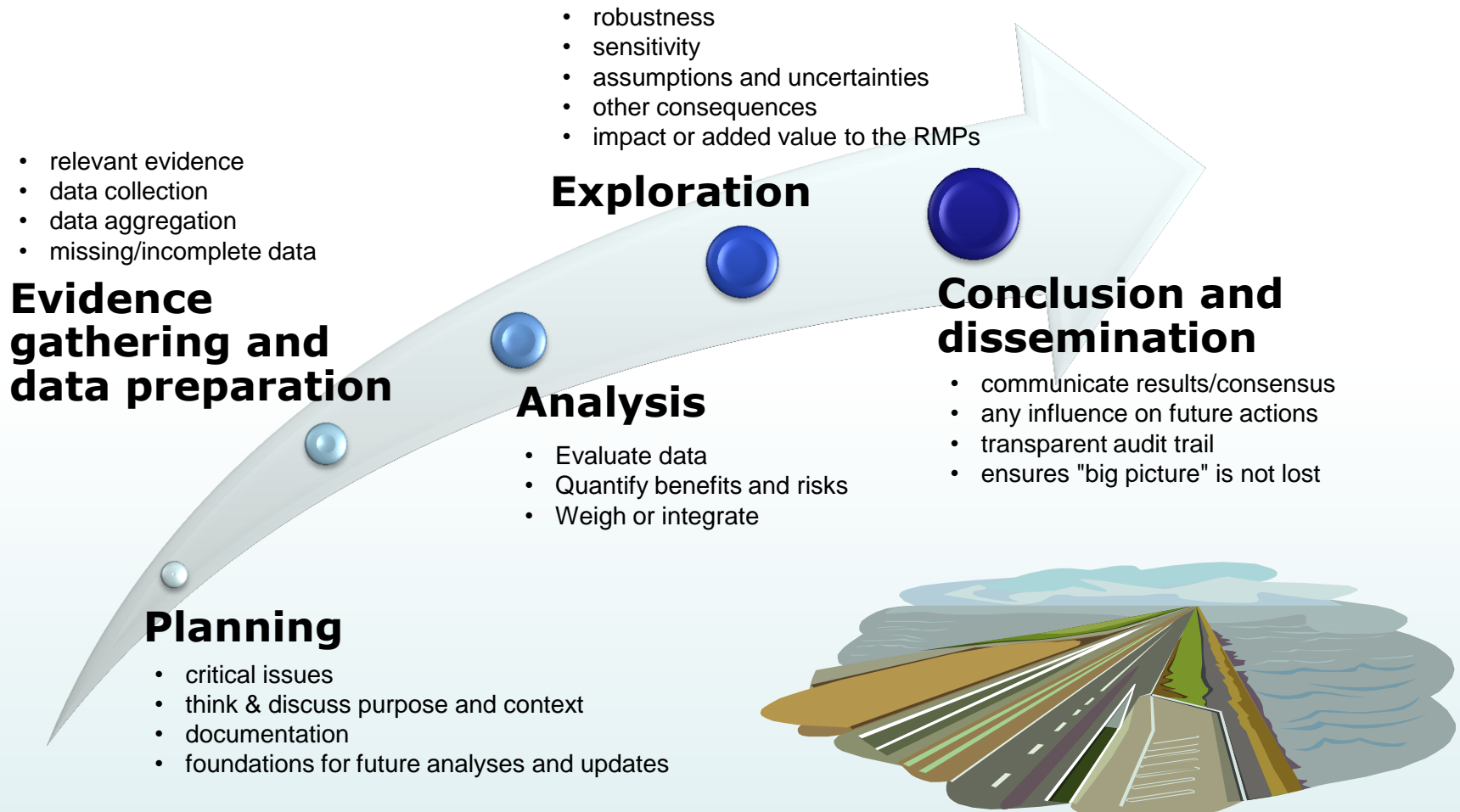
<b>Drug of interest</b>	Efalizumab
<b>Indication</b>	Psoriasis
<b>Severe side effect</b>	Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy (PML)
<b>Regulatory history</b>	2004 Approved in September 2009 Marketing authorisation was suspended in February Marketing authorisation withdrawn in June
<b>Data source</b>	EPAR, SPC, PSUR10

# Efalizumab case study

---

<b>Comparators</b>	Placebo
<b>Questions addressed</b>	Given the emergence in the post-marketing setting of PML (Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy) in addition to other serious risks (cardiotoxicity, neurotoxicity, serious infections including tuberculosis), are there in January 2009 any risk minimisation measures which could be rapidly implemented, thus maintaining the benefit balance of the drug as positive? If not, should the Market Authorisation be suspended/revoked?
<b>Perspectives</b>	Regulator
<b>Reasons for selection</b>	Initial Market authorisation was controversial; later withdrawn due to serious safety concerns.
<b>Methods used</b>	BRAT, PrOACT-URL, MCDA, BRR

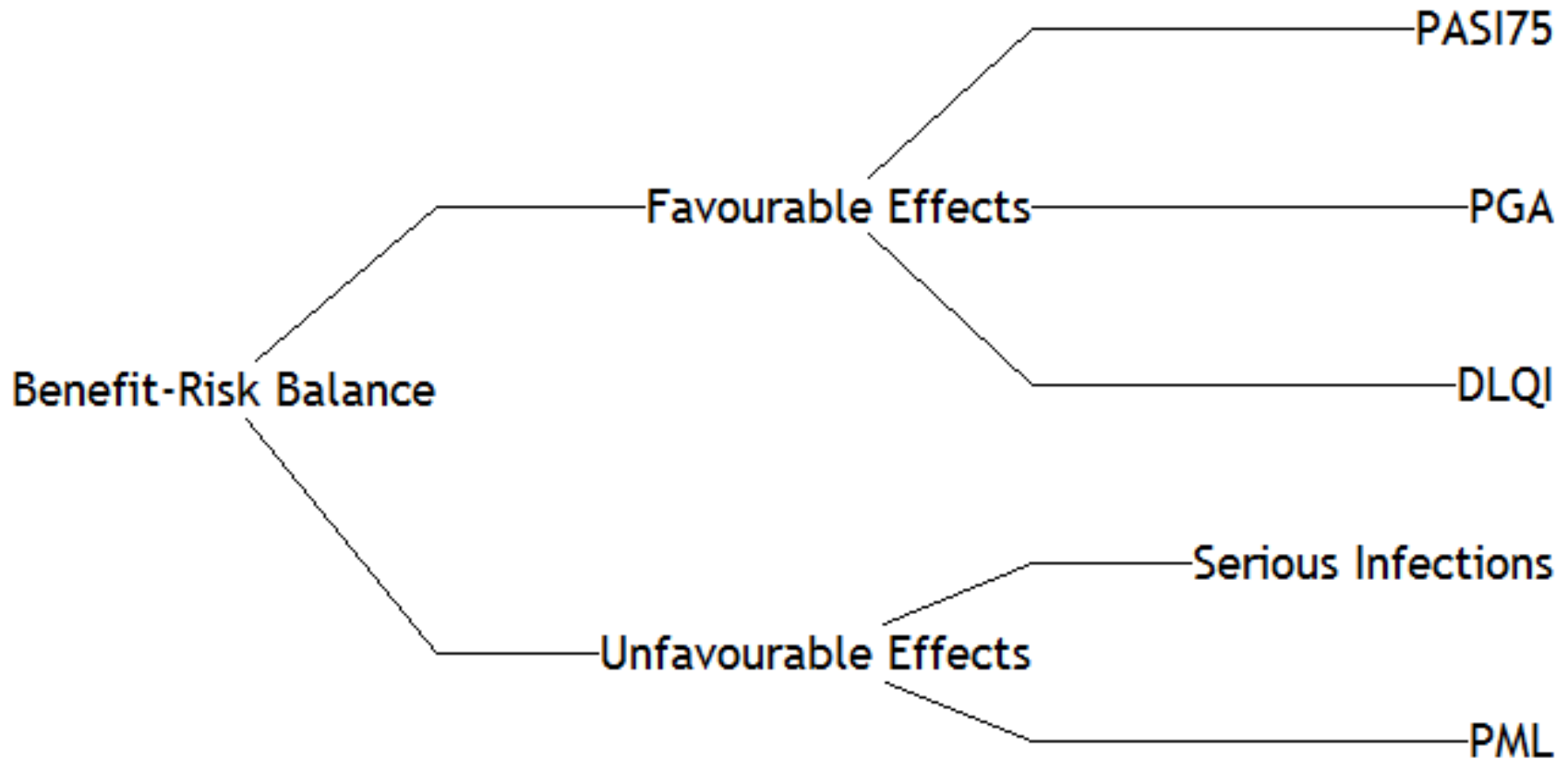
# Recommendation Roadmap



## Recommendations at Stage 1

Methodologies	Visual representation
PrOACT-URL	Tree diagram
PhRMA BRAT	Structured table shells <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Effects table (PrOACT-URL)</li><li>- Source data table (BRAT)</li></ul>

# Value tree (efalizumab example)



## Recommendations at Stage 2

Methodologies	Visual representation
Indirect / Mixed treatment comparison (ITC/MTC)	Structured and colour-coded tables (Effects table, Source data table)
Probabilistic simulation method (PSM)	Network graphs
	Forest plots



# Effects table (efalizumab example)

	Name	Description	Units	Efalizumab	Placebo
<b>Favourable Effects</b>	PASI75	Percentage of patients achieving 75% reduction in baseline PASI <sup>1</sup> at week 12.	%	29.5	2.7
	PGA	Percentage of patients achieving Physician's Global Assessment <sup>2</sup> clear/almost clear at week12.	%	29.5	5.1
	DLQI	Dermatology Life Quality Index <sup>3</sup> . Mean change from base score.	Change score	5.8	2.1
<b>Unfavourable Effects</b>	Severe infections	Proportion of patients experiencing infections serious enough to require hospitalisation.	%/100 ptyrs	2.83	1.4
	PML	Number of cases of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy.	number	3	0

<sup>1</sup>PASI is a measure of the average redness, thickness and scaliness of the lesions (each graded on a 0-4 scale), weighted by the body region and the area affected. PASI range is from 0 to 72.

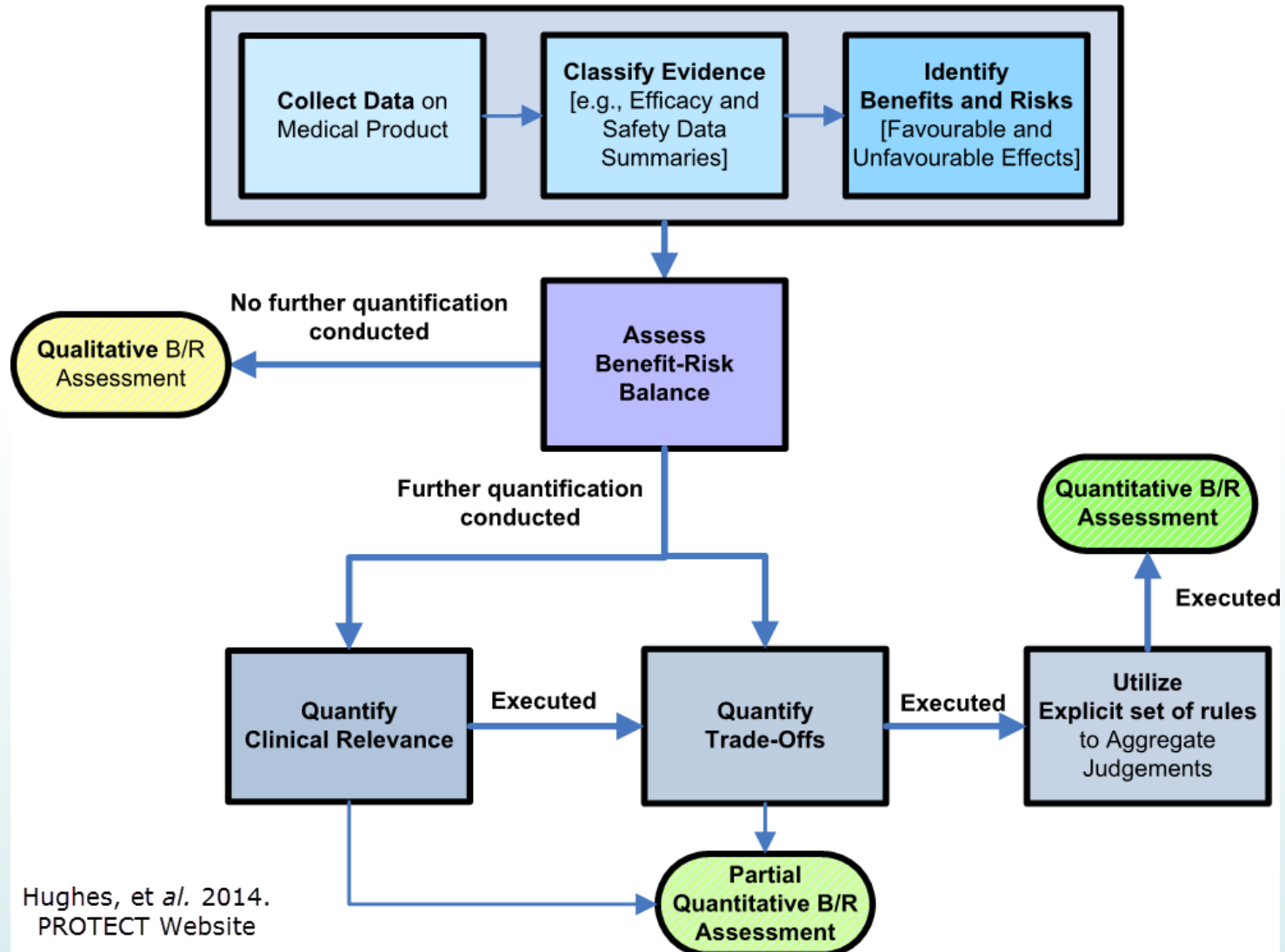
<sup>2</sup>PGA is a seven point scale with 7 being clear, 6 almost clear, 5 mild, 4 mild to moderate, 3 moderate, 2 moderately severe and 1 severe psoriasis.

<sup>3</sup>DLQI is a 10-item quality of life index scored by the patient on a four-point scale (0-3).

## Recommendations at Stage 3

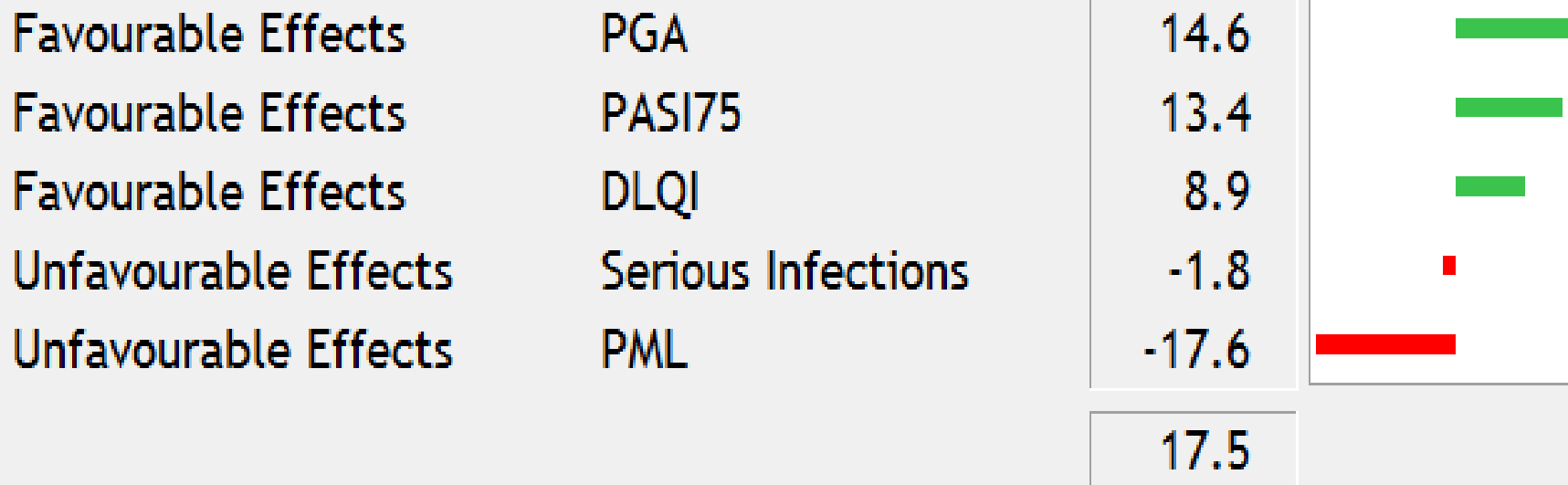
Methodologies	Visual representation
<p>Numerical representations of benefits and risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NNT/NNH</li> <li>- Impact numbers</li> <li>- QALY</li> <li>- Q-TWiST</li> <li>- BRR</li> <li>- INHB</li> </ul>	<p>Elicit preference values</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tree diagram</li> <li>- Method-specific visual displays (e.g. MACBETH grid, AHP table, swing-weight scale, drop-down list)</li> </ul>
<p>Model benefit-risk balance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MCDA</li> <li>- SMAA</li> </ul>	<p>Present descriptive results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tables</li> <li>- Forest / interval plots</li> </ul>
<p>Elicit stakeholders' preference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DCE</li> </ul>	<p>Present quantitative results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Difference display</li> <li>- Stacked bar charts</li> <li>- Grouped bar charts</li> </ul>

# Qualitative versus quantitative DM



Hughes, et al. 2014.  
PROTECT Website

## Quantitative analysis (efalizumab example)

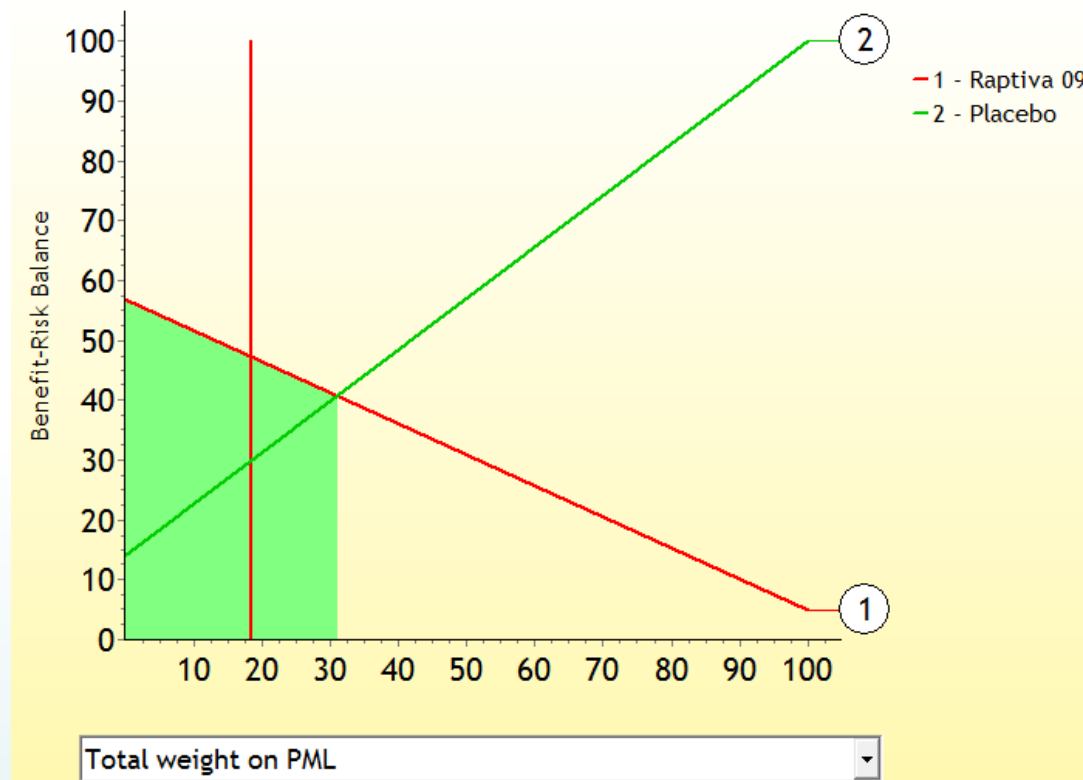


The difference display shows the contribution of the weighted difference between drug and placebo for each effect. Right-extending (green) bars favour the drug and left-extending (red) bars favour the placebo, for a 17.5 total difference (out of 100) in favour of efalizumab.

## Recommendations at Stage 4

Methodologies	Visual representation
Indirect / Mixed treatment comparison (ITC/MTC)	Box plot
Utility survey techniques (DCE, AHP, swing-weighting, MACBETH)	Distribution plot
Probabilistic simulation method (PSM)	Forest / interval plot
Stochastic multi-attribute acceptability analysis (SMAA)	Tornado diagram
	Scatter plot
	Interactive visual displays

# Sensitivity analysis (efalizumab example)



It shows the effect of changing the weight on the PML criterion. The vertical red line represents the current weight of 18.5 (out of a total of 100 for all five criteria). The intersections of that line with the slanting red and green lines define the 17.5 difference. If the PML weight is increased beyond 32, then the benefit-risk balance favours the placebo.

# Key considerations at Stage 5

---

## Methodological considerations

- What question(s) were the benefit-risk assessment aimed at addressing?
- What answer(s) were found?
- Is/are the answer(s) highly sensitive to the treatment effects data, the choice of analysis method, or the preference data?
- What is the supporting information on which the conclusion is based?

## Visualisation considerations

- Know the intended audience – consider knowledge/interests
- Refer to established visual design principles and guidelines, e.g. Wickens, Tufte, Carswell, Kosslyn, Lipkus, Cleveland, Few

# Contributions

---

- Taxonomy of benefit-risk assessment methodologies
- Comparative applications in real-world case studies
- Visual representation review
- Role of patient and public involvement and comparative evaluation of preference elicitation methods
- Demonstrated effective collaboration between multiple partners



# Final remarks

---

- Benefit-risk assessment methodologies support decision-making and are not intended to replace medical expertise.
- Implementation in regulatory settings have begun but there is no harmonisation across organisations
- PROTECT BR group only provide guidance
- Future research includes:
  - Patient and public involvement
  - Vaccines
  - Different subgroups

# Dissemination and recommendations arising from PROTECT



The screenshot shows the homepage of the PROTECT Benefit-Risk Website. At the top, there is a header with the PROTECT logo (a green swoosh and the word 'PROTECT' in blue), the 'imi efpia' logo (with a European Union flag), and the text 'Pharmacoepidemiological Research on Outcomes of Therapeutics by a European Consortium'. A search bar is located on the right. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: HOME, RECOMMENDATIONS, METHODS, VISUALISATIONS, CASE STUDIES, PATIENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, ABOUT US, and LINKS AND GLOSSARY. The main content area features a large group photo of approximately 20 people, mostly men, standing in a hallway. Below the photo is a black bar with the text 'Welcome to the PROTECT Benefit-Risk Website'. Underneath this is a heading 'Welcome to the PROTECT Benefit-Risk Website' followed by two paragraphs of text. The first paragraph states that PROTECT is a European Consortium whose goal is to strengthen the monitoring of the benefit-risk balance of medicines in Europe and to enhance early detection and assessment of adverse drug reactions. The second paragraph discusses the importance of evaluating the balance between benefits and risks of drugs for various stakeholders and the need for transparent, robust, and comprehensive methodologies.

**Welcome to the PROTECT Benefit-Risk Website**

PROTECT, the Pharmacoepidemiological Research on Outcomes of Therapeutics by a European Consortium, contains a number of work programmes whose goal is to strengthen the monitoring of the benefit-risk balance of medicines in Europe and to enhance early detection and assessment of adverse drug reactions from different data sources.

The evaluation of the balance between benefits and risks of drugs is fundamental to numerous stakeholders including patients, healthcare providers, health technology assessors, regulators and biopharmaceutical companies. Decision-making with regards to benefit-risk assessment is often complex. It is important to ensure transparent, robust and comprehensive methodologies are used, and also that patient and public preferences on benefits and risks feed into the decision-making process.

<http://PROTECTBenefitRisk.eu/>