



**How big is the difference? Measures of Outcomes – Different ways to say the same thing**  
**Favored Measures: Absolute Risk Reduction (ARR) ♦ Number-Needed-To-Treat (NNT) ♦ Risk With & Without Rx**  
**Relative Measures: Odds Ratio (OR) ♦ Relative Risk (RR) ♦ Relative Risk Reduction (RRR)**

**The Quick Tour**

There are various ways of expressing how big the difference in outcomes is between a study and control group. Which gets used can dramatically influence patient treatment decisions.

- We favor communicating Risk w & w/o, ARR and NNT.
- You lose the baseline with the relative measures.
- RRR alone tells you nothing and always overstates benefit.
- Always express the measures with the time period studied. Extrapolations to more time can be misleading.
- You can apply confidence intervals to any of these measures.

