

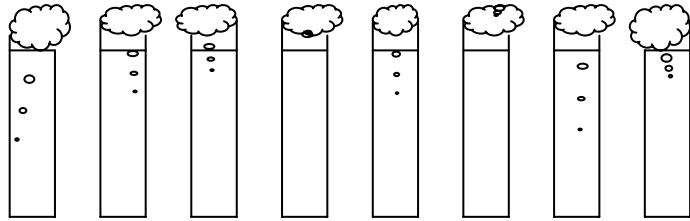
Aggregation in Health Resource Allocation

*Weyma Lübbe
Regensburg University/Germany*

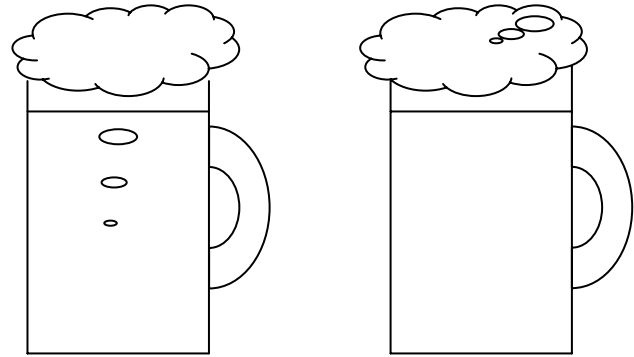
- 1. Numbers and sizes**
- 2. Weighing goodness and fairness?**
- 3. Fairness trumps goodness**
- 4. Redefining the units of goodness?**

Funded by Volkswagen Foundation

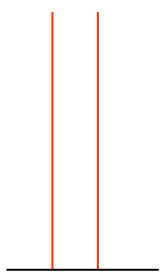
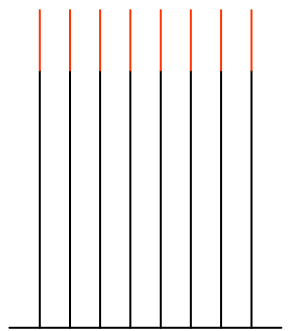
Cologne



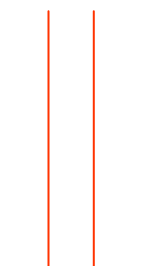
Munich



QALYs

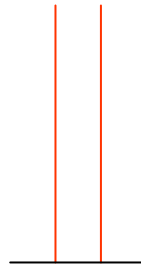
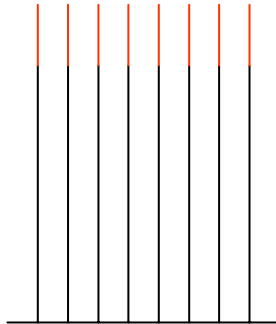


QALYs

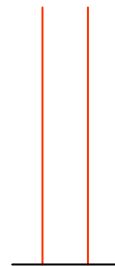
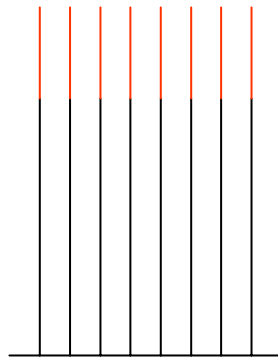


“small benefits to a large number vs.
life saving interventions to a few”

QALYs



QALYs



1. Trumping

- Goodness trumps fairness
- Fairness trumps goodness

2. Weighing goodness and fairness

3. Redefining the units of goodness

Fairness:

- Give priority to the worst off
- Realize equality after treatment
- Provide equal chances

$$w_1 + w_2 - \frac{1}{2} |w_1 - w_2|$$

J. Broome (2002)

Fairness:

Satisfy equal claims equally

(J. Broome)

J. Broome (1984), Uncertainty and fairness,
The Economic Journal

J. Harsanyi (1955), Cardinal welfare, individualistic ethics, and interpersonal comparisons of utility

Journal of Political Economy

- J. Harsanyi (1955), Cardinal welfare, individualistic ethics, and interpersonal comparisons of utility

Journal of Political Economy

- P. Diamond (1967), Cardinal welfare, individualistic ethics, and interpersonal comparisons of utility:
Comment

Journal of Political Economy

state 1 (heads)

state 2 (tails)

A David 100, Peter 0

David 100, Peter 0

B David 100, Peter 0

David 0, Peter 100

state 1 (heads)

state 2 (tails)

A David 100, Peter 0,
the selection
not having been fair

David 100, Peter 0,
the selection
not having been fair

B David 100, Peter 0,
the selection
having been fair

David 0, Peter 100,
the selection
having been fair

state 1 (heads)

state 2 (tails)

A David 100, Peter 0,
equal claims to be saved
not satisfied equally

David 100, Peter 0,
equal claims to be saved
not satisfied equally

B David 100, Peter 0,
equal claims to be saved
satisfied equally

David 0, Peter 100,
equal claims to be saved
satisfied equally

state 1 (heads)

state 2 (tails)

A David 100, Peter 0,
equal claims to *chances*
to be saved
not satisfied equally

David 100, Peter 0,
equal claims to *chances*
to be saved
not satisfied equally

B David 100, Peter 0,
equal claims to *chances*
to be saved
satisfied equally

David 0, Peter 100,
equal claims to *chances*
to be saved
satisfied equally

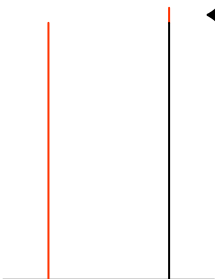
QALYs



David

Peter

QALYs



David

Decision
maker



Peter

Reasons for acting

- not: Benefits that we can produce
- but: Benefits that we can produce
without violating claims

QALYs



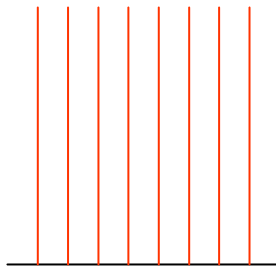
QALYs



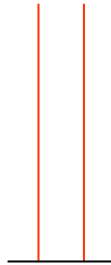
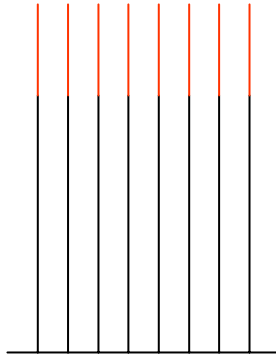
QALYs



QALYs



QALYs



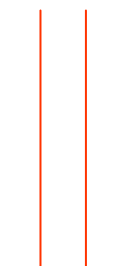
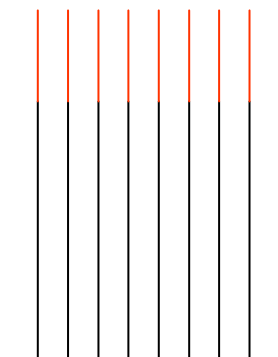
QALYs



David

Peter

QALYs



“[A] health care insurance scheme, be it public or private, should try to be as valuable as possible to its members. [...] This is the same as saying that it should give priority to activities that have a favorable ratio between benefits and costs. In that way it will maximize the membership value, hereafter called the *societal value*, of health care.”

*E. Nord (1999), Cost-value analysis
in health care, p xix*

“I define a *fair* resource allocation in health care as one that accords with societal feelings about the strength of claims of different patient groups [...]. A resource allocation that violates such feelings is defined as *unfair*.”

*E. Nord (1999), Cost-value analysis
in health care, p 23*

QALYs

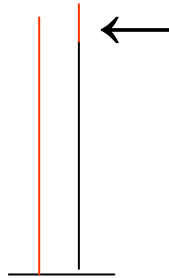


Patient group A



Patient group B

QALYs



Patient groups
A & C



Patient group B

“After all, we do want to do as much good as possible with the limited resources available for health care, don’t we?”

*E. Nord (1999), Cost-Value Analysis
in Health Care, p. xv*