Prevalence and mental health effects of IPV

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Improving health worldwide

www.lshtm.ac.uk

https://genderviolence.lshtm.ac.uk

How did we estimate prevalence?

Systematic Reviews

Secondary Analysis

Making projections

- Data from 141 studies in 81 countries included
- Meta-regression model
  - Outcome=prevalence of IPV
  - Adjusted for study design and quality characteristics, geographical region
  - Meta-regression equation used to correct original information for differences in study design and quality

Prevalence of IPV...

Devries et al. 2013. The Global Prevalence of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women. *Science.* 340:1527-1528

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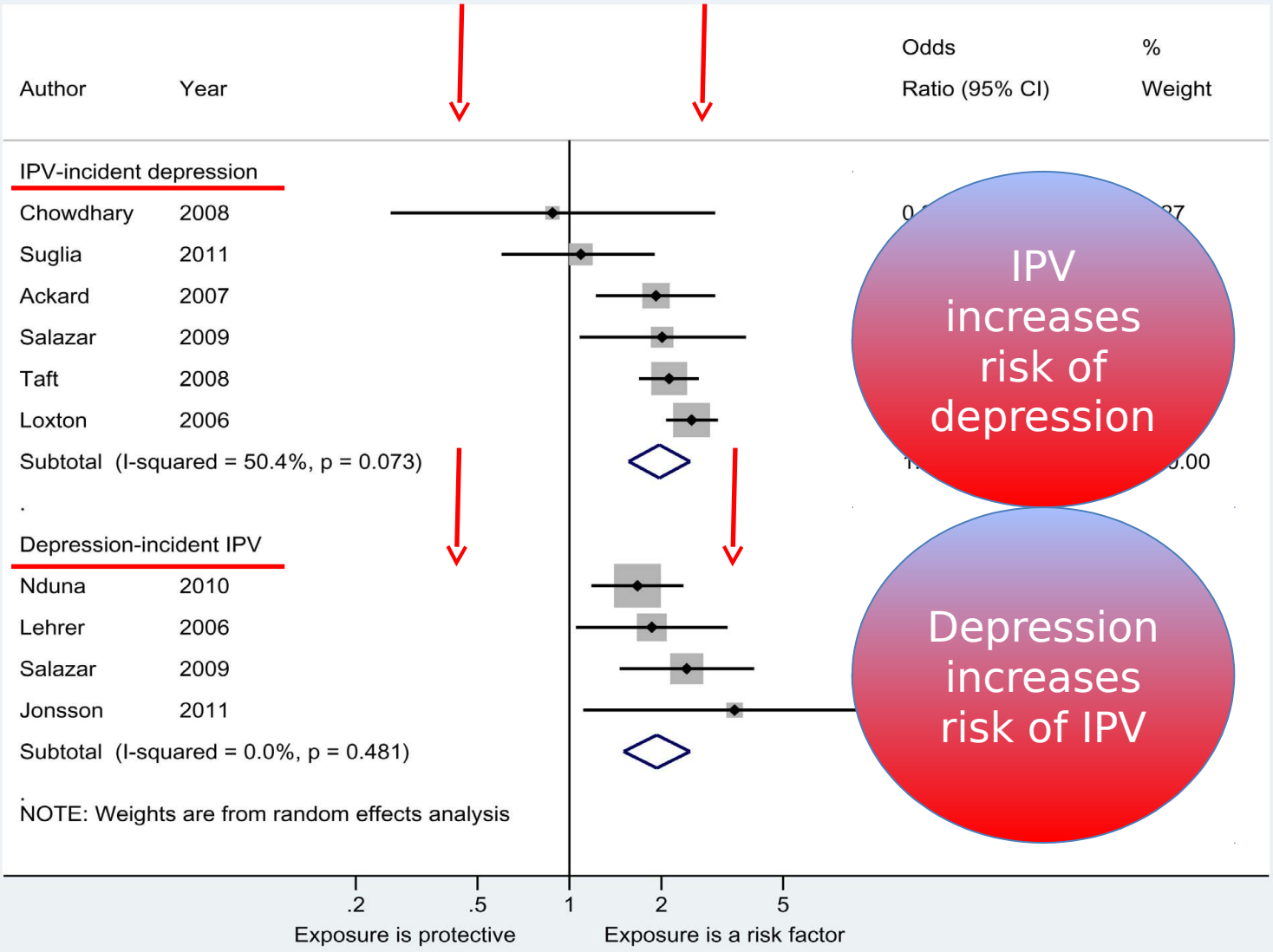
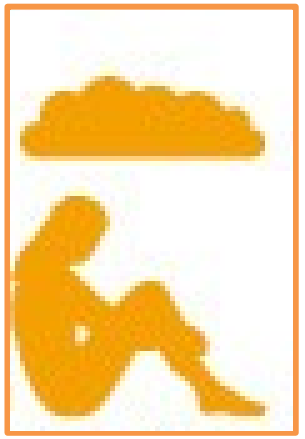
How did we estimate health effects?

Systematic Reviews

- Searched 23 databases
- Screened thousands of abstracts
- Only studies measuring physical and/or sexual IPV
  - Emotional violence excluded this time
- Focus on longitudinal studies
  - Following people over time, so we can see if IPV or health outcomes came first
  - Provides more robust evidence about

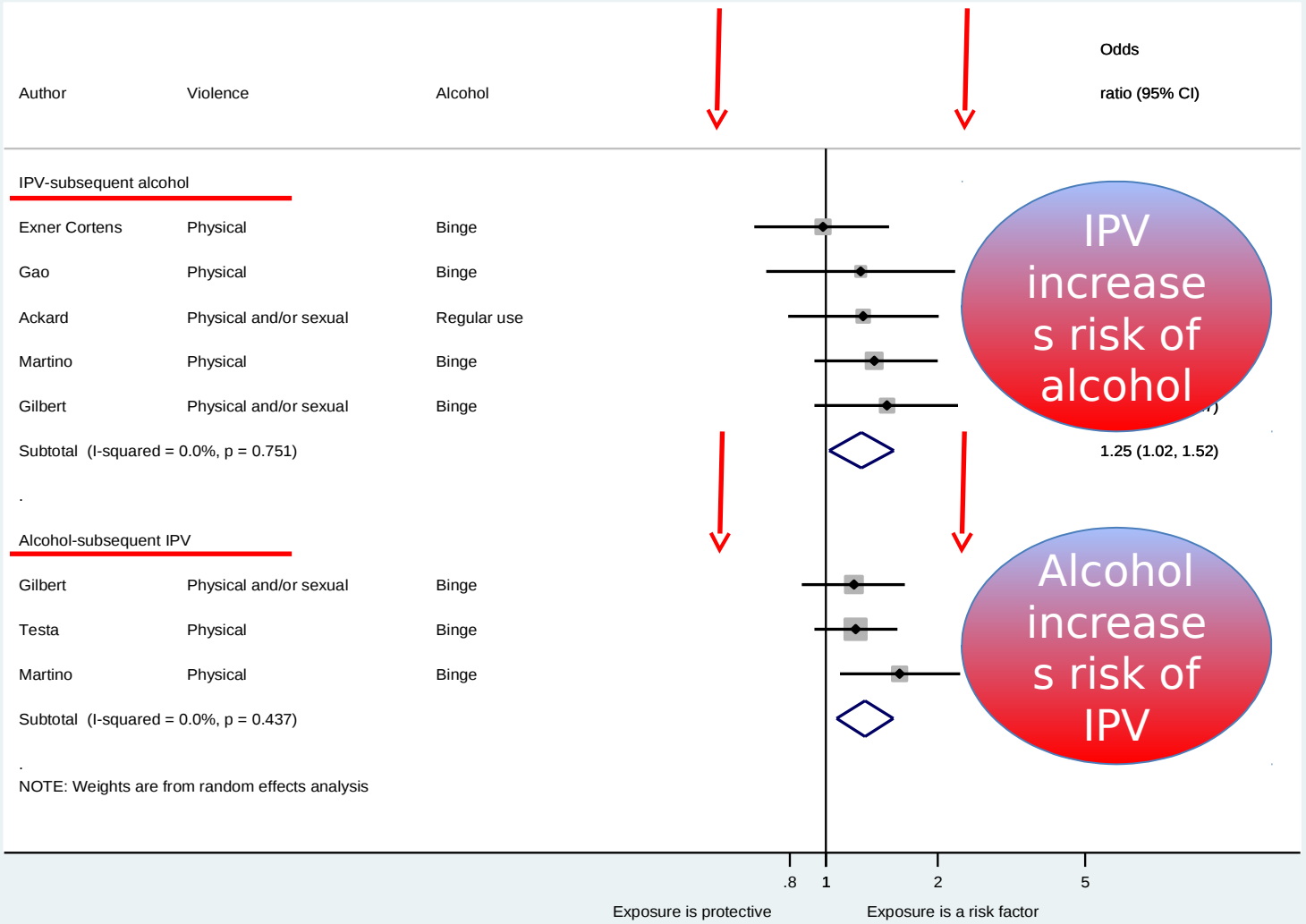
Increased risk of depression





Devries et al. 2013. Intimate Partner Violence and Incident Depressive Symptoms and Suicide Attempts: A Systematic Review of Longitudinal Studies. PLoS Medicine 10(5): e1001439. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.1001439

Increased risk of alcohol use



Devries et al. (forthcoming). Intimate partner violence victimization and alcohol consumption in women: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Addiction.

Conclusion

- Physical and sexual intimate partner violence is common
- Intimate partner violence is a strong risk factor for depressive symptoms and alcohol use
- Depressive symptoms and alcohol use are also related to later intimate partner violence
- Surprisingly little longitudinal research—we need to do more to make the case for causality
- Need better control for confounders

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Thank you!

- For further information: contact karen.devries@lshtm.ac.uk

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Researching gender-based violence: Methods and meaning

February 17-21st, 2014, London

Co-Organised by Prof Charlotte Watts, Dr Karen Devries, Dr Cathy Zimmerman

http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/cpd/gender_violence.html