Characterizing and Forecasting Individual Weight Changes in Term Neonates

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Pediatrics – A Heterogeneous Population





Rodieux F. et al. Effect of Kidney Function on Drug Kinetics and Dosing in Neonates, Infants, and Children. Clin Pharmacokinet 2015

Pediatrics – A Heterogeneous Population



Body Composition



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Motivation



• Weight changes during the first week of life in term neonates:



- Excessive weight loss (>10%) has negative effects on development and increases the risk for serious clinical long term complications
- To further improve care of neonates by clinicians, nurses, midwifes, and mothers



- **Develop** a pharmacometric model characterizing weight changes in healthy term neonates exclusively breastfed
- Identify and quantify effects of maternal and neonatal factors
- Forecast individual weight changes up to 7 days of life
- Provide a user-friendly online monitoring tool to support neonatologists and other caregivers

Data



- Retrospective single-center study at University Hospital of Basel & University Children's Hospital Basel: maternal and neonatal data
- A total of 1335 healthy term neonates exclusively breastfed
- Longitudinal body weight data up to the first **7 days** of life
- Neonatal and maternal characteristics:

Characteristics	(%) Median [min - max]
Gender: Female / Male	50% / 50%
Delivery Mode: C-section / Vaginal Delivery	16% / 84%
Mother's Age (years)	32 [17 - 47]
Gestational Age (weeks)	40 [37 – 42]
Birth Weight (g)	3390 [2410 - 4610]

A total of 300 additional neonates for advanced evaluation



Development of a **pharmacometric model** by characterizing weight changes as a net balance between weight gain and weight loss rates



$$\frac{dWeight}{dt} = Kin - Kout \times Weight$$



Development of a **pharmacometric model** by characterizing weight changes as a net balance between weight gain and weight loss rates

$$\frac{dWeight}{dt} = Kin(t) - Kout(t) \times Weight$$

Kin and *Kout* describe using **time-dependent** mathematical functions

Methods – Model Development





$$\frac{dWeight}{dt} = Kin(t) - Kout(t) \times Weight$$



Methods – Modeling Method

Universitäts-Kinderspital beider Basel

- Non-linear mixed effects modeling:
 - NONMEM 7.3 (FOCEI algorithm)
- Model selection & evaluation:
 - Maximization of the likelihood
 - Standard error (SE)
 - Goodness-of-fit (GOF) plots
 - Simulation-based diagnostics (Visual predictive Check: VPC)
- Search for covariates:
 - Clinical relevance
 - Standard stepwise forward selection backward deletion approach

Results - Final Model





 $\frac{dWeight}{dt} = Kin(t) - Kout(t) \times Weight$ Weight(t = 0) = WT0

• *Kin*(*t*): Weight gain rate:

IF(t < TLag): Kin(t) = 0

 $IF(t \ge TLag)$: $Kin(t) = Kin_{Base} \times exp^{Kin_{PNA} \times t}$

 $TLag = 2 \ days$ for vaginal delivery $TLag = 3 \ days$ for C-section

$$Kout(t) = \frac{Koutmax \times t^{-H}}{T50^{-H} + t^{-H}} + Kout_{Base} \times exp^{Kout_{PNA} \times t}$$

Saturable Emax
with Hill coefficient Exponential

• *Kout*(*t*): Weight loss rate:



• **Gender** effect on WT0: $WT0_{Male} > WT0_{Female}$







- 5 covariate parameter relationships:
 - Positive **GA** effect on *WT*0





- 5 covariate parameter relationships:
 - Positive **GA** effect on *Kin_{Base}*





• Positive **mother age** effect on *WT*0:



-> Hypothesis: age-dependent changes in mother's glucose metabolism¹



beider Basel



- 5 covariate parameter relationships:
 - Negative mother age effect on Kin_{Base}



-> Hypothesis: decreased milk production with mother's age ²

² Nommsen-Rivers L.A. et al. Delayed onset of lactogenesis among first-time mothers is related to maternal obesity and factors associated with ineffective breastfeeding. Am J Clin Nutr 2010

Results - Goodness-of-fit Plots



Individual Predictions, Observations and Population Predictions vs. Time



Results - Goodness-of-fit Plots

CWRES vs. Population Predictions



CWRES vs. Time



Results - Visual Predictive Check





Advanced Validation: good predictive performance with accuracy (MAE=0.52%) and no bias (MPE=0.01%)

Results - Parameter Estimates



- Typical birth weight: WT0 = 3470 g
- Typical basal rate of weight gain: $Kin_{Base} = 41.51 \ g. \ day^{-1}$; IIV = 30%
- Maximum rate constant of weight loss (*Koutmax*) slowed by one-half at: $T50 = 1.9 \ days$
- Variability on *Kin* and *WT*0 explained by covariates
- Remaining non-explained variability on *Kout* (80%)



Forecast individual weight changes up to 7 days as soon as possible after birth

- Use of 3 initial weight observations during first 48 hours of life: birth weight + 2 weight measurements
- Apply model to forecast individual weight changes up to 7 days



Clinical Application - Evaluation

Forecast individual weight changes up to 7 days as soon as possible after birth

• Good graphical agreement:

- Predictive performance:
 - Good precision (MAE = 1.54 %)
 - No bias (MPE = -0.74 %)



Forecasted weight (g)

Observed vs. individual

forecasted weight values



NeoWeight Prediction Tool – Input



Rudraya

http://neoweight.mashframe.com/

Gestational Age		Sex		Delivery Mode		Mother's Age (years)	
39	0	Female	\checkmark	C-Section	~	35	
Birth Weight							
Observed Weight		Observed Weight Unit		Date and Time			
3660		g	\checkmark	05/01/2016 10:30 PM			i
Subsequent w	eight measuremer	nts					
Observed Weight		Observed Weight Unit		Date and Time			
3580		g	~	05/02/2016 9:00 AM			i
Observed Weight		Observed Weight Unit		Date and Time			
3400		g		05/03/2016 9:00 AM			i
			L Add weight	measurement 🗜			
			🗲 Foreca	st Weight 🖌			

NeoWeight Prediction Tool – Output







- First pharmacometric model characterizing weight changes in healthy term neonates exclusively breastfed
- User-friendly online NeoWeight Prediction tool allowing caregivers to:
 - Forecast and appropriately monitor individual weight changes
 - Personalize and optimize care of neonates



Outlooks – Model Expansion









Thank you !

