# **Use of Co-worker Data** in Dose Reconstruction

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# Reasons for Using Co-worker Data

- Worker was unmonitored and potentially exposed
- Worker was monitored but:
  - Data was lost or destroyed
  - Monitoring methods were not reliable
- Available data insufficient to complete a dose reconstruction





#### **Sources of Co-worker Data**

- Covered facility databases
- ORAU Center for Epidemiologic Research
- Comprehensive epidemiologic data resource (CEDR)
- Claimant data







# **General Approach to Co-worker Evaluation**

- Evaluate available data for monitored population
  - Conduct data pedigree review
  - Determine if measurement method is reliable
  - Establish that the monitored population is representative of the workforce
- Statistical approach described in ORAUT-PROC-0095







# General Approach to Co-worker Evaluation—cont.

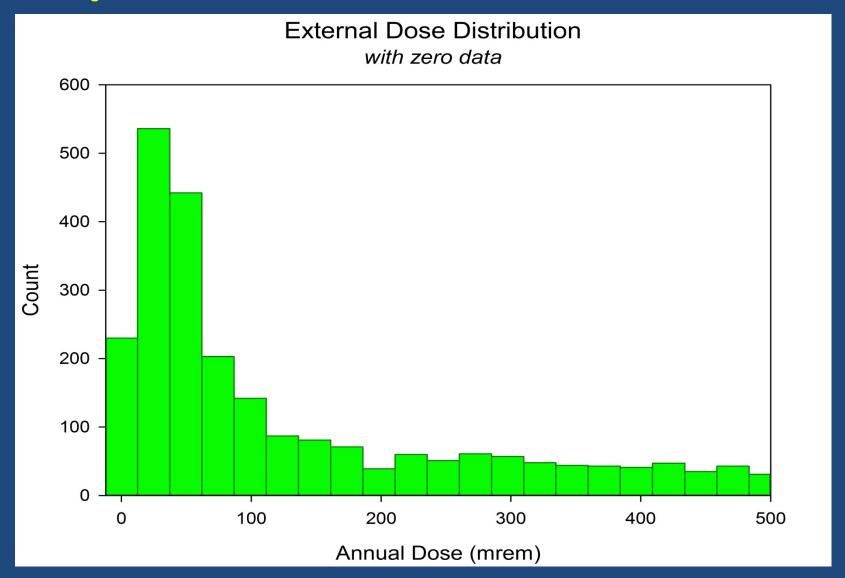
- Review data to determine if appropriate statistical distributions can be generated
  - Fit data to lognormal distributions
  - Group data as appropriate
  - Generate summary statistics and evaluate fit
- External co-worker models more straight forward than internal models







## **Example External Co-worker Distribution**

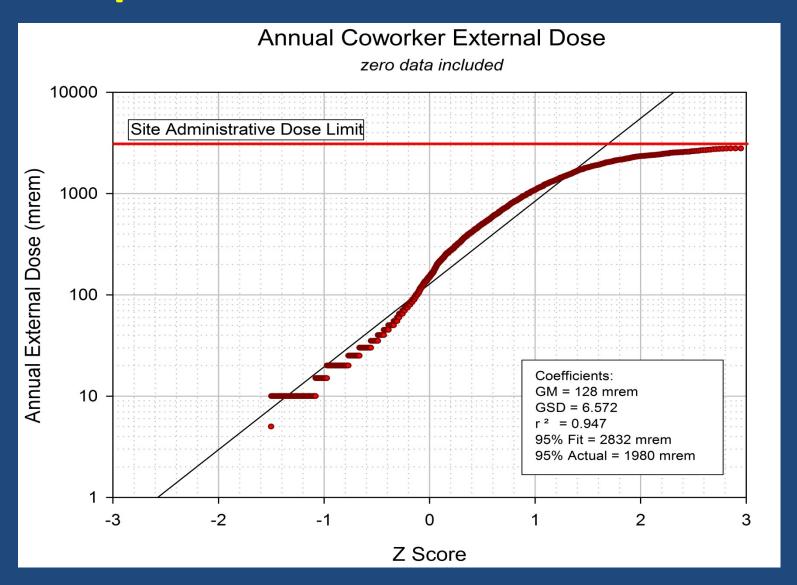








### **Example External Co-worker Data Plot**









# Complications of Internal Co-worker Modeling

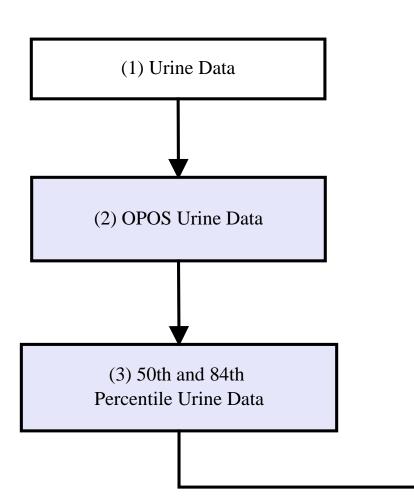
- Often multiple bioassay results per monitoring period
  - Possible correlation of data
- Raw data must be converted to intake and dose
- Exposure pattern must be presumed
  - Accute, Chronic, mixed?

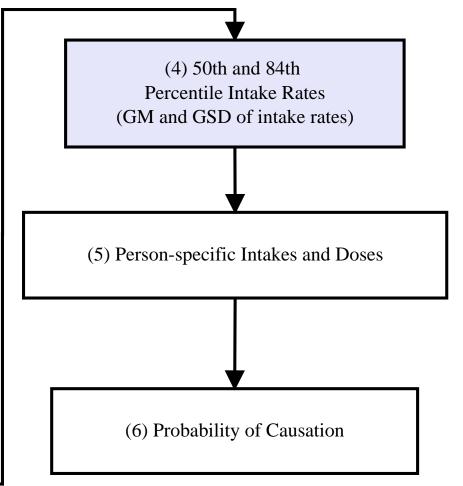






# Summary of Internal Co-worker Model Calculations



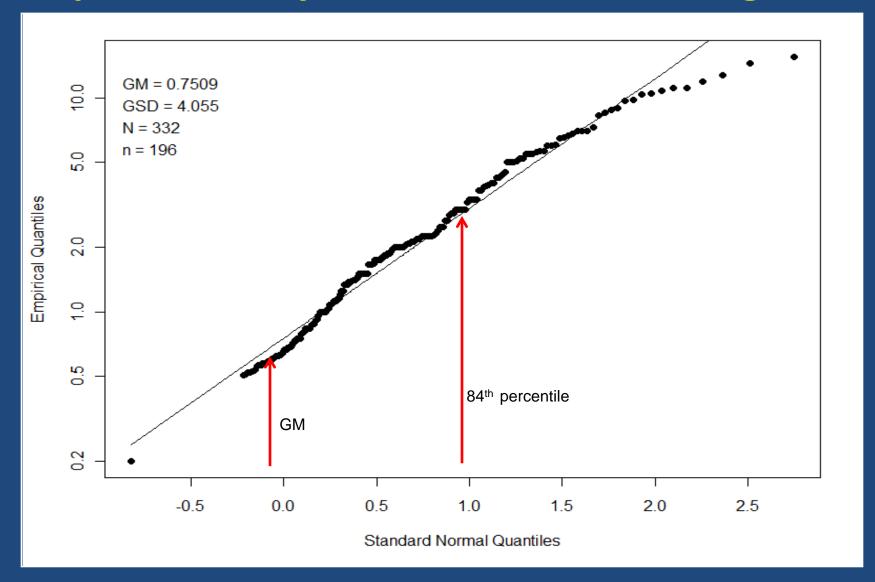








### **Example Bioassay Distribution for a Single Year**

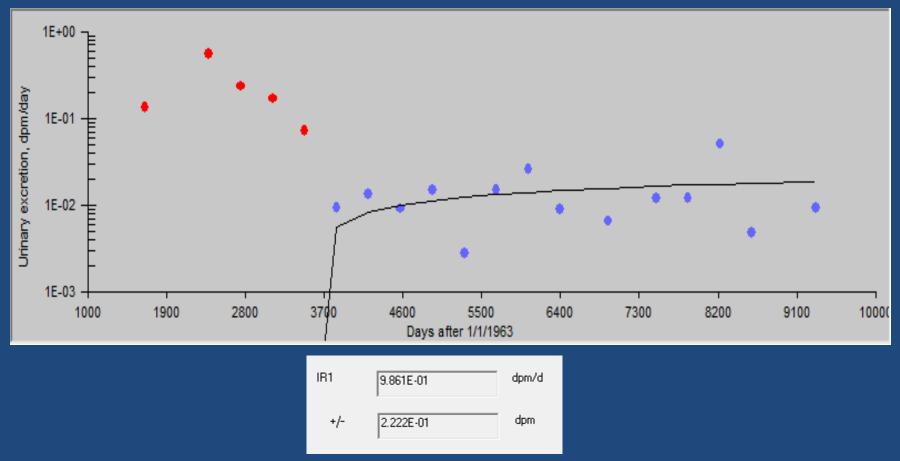








# **Example Fit of Bioassay Data to Chronic Intake Scenario Over Multiple Years**



Regression of median excretion rate on chronic Intake Retention Function







## **Co-worker Application**

- Based on potential for exposure an unmonitored worker would receive either:
  - The full intake distribution (i.e., the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile and the Geometric Standard Deviation (GSD) as input parameters or;
  - The 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of the distribution input as a constant
- Each situation is evaluated on a site and case-specific basis
- Approach to evaluation of data stratification described in ORAUT-RPRT-0053
  - Introduces concept of one person one sample (OPOS)







### One Person One Sample

- Minimizes issues related to correlated data
- Uses the Maximum Possible Mean (MPM) approach
  - Using MPM, censored data are taken to be a positive measurement, i.e., <0.05 dpm = 0.05 dpm</li>

**Example A: 10, 3, 5, 6** 

Mean = 24/4 = 6 (report as 6)

Example B: 10, <3, <5, 6

Maximum Mean = 24/4 = 6 (report as 6)

Example C: <10, <3, <5, <6

Maximum Mean = 24/4 = 6 (report as <6)







#### **Data Stratification**

- Monitored population is really a conglomerate of a number of subgroups
- Single distribution can be applied to unmonitored workers if:
  - Highest exposed workers were monitored or
  - Representative sampling of the exposed workers was conducted
- If stratification suspected, can be statistically evaluated
  - Monte Carlo Permutation Test
  - Peto-Prentice Test
  - Must consider the effect of multiple comparisons







#### **Monte Carlo Permutation Test**

- Assumptions:
  - Data can be described by a lognormal distribution
  - Data is not heavily censored
- Stratify data using an a priori criterion
  - Construction workers vs. non-Construction workers
  - Area 100 workers vs. Area 200 workers
- For each strata calculate the Geometric mean (GM) and Geometric Standard Deviation (GSD)







#### Monte Carlo Permutation Test\_cont.

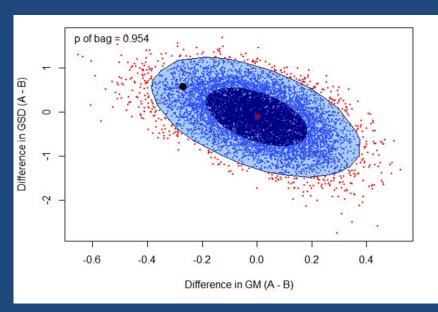
- Calculate the difference in the GM and GSD between strata
  - These differences comprise one data point with (x,y) coordinates
- Random Sample
  - Combine all data and randomly pull samples without replacement equal to the size of one strata
  - Calculate GM and GSD of each random strata
  - Calculate and plot the difference in GM and GSD
  - Repeat 10,000 times



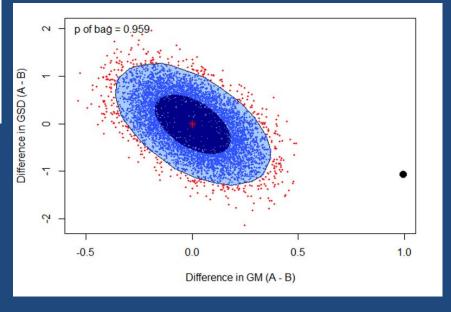




### Monte Carlo Permutation Test\_cont.



Not significantly different



Significantly different







#### Monte Carlo Permutation Test\_cont.

#### Benefits

Can easily compare whether different size strata are significantly different

#### Limitations

- Requires some a priori decision on distribution
- Doesn't work if data set is heavily censored
  - Too many random pulls of zero
  - Peto-Prentice Test is more appropriate







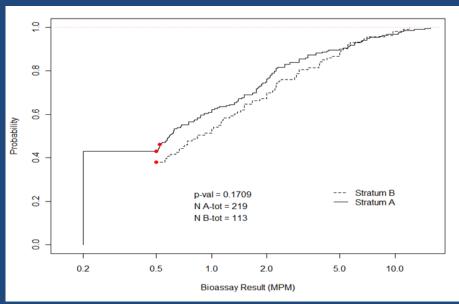
#### **Peto-Prentice Test**

- Advantages
  - Non-parametric i.e. no a priori distribution assumption
  - Can handle censored data sets
  - Can compare whether different size strata are significantly different (p-value)
- For cases where both the Monte Carlo and Peto-Prentice are applicable, they typically lead to the same conclusion

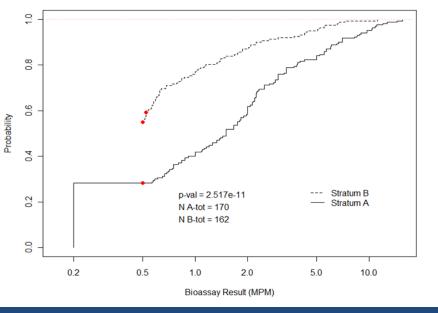




### Peto-Prentice Test\_cont.



Not significantly different



Significantly different







### **Summary**

- Co-worker models can be used to reconstruct doses to unmonitored workers if:
  - Highest exposed workers were monitored or;
  - Representative sampling of the exposed workers was conducted
- Data must be carefully reviewed for applicability
  - Data quality and representativeness
  - Potential for stratification
- One person one sample approach is useful in normalizing data
- Stratification can be evaluated using standard statistical tests





