

Validation of a complex algorithm for the diagnosis of metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer within a claims database

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Abstract

Background: An algorithm was developed in the French nationwide claims database (SNDS) to identify cases of metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC). The usual way to validate such an algorithm is to review patients' medical charts. An alternative in an irreversibly pseudonymised database is to use all healthcare use information to identify diagnosis and/or treatment of prostate cancer, then resistant and metastatic stage.

Objectives: To assess and validate mCRPC algorithm using the wealth of data available in SNDS.
Methods: 100 of 14 050 mCRPC patients identified by the algorithm and 100 of 372 273 non-mCRPC patients were randomly selected within SNDS. The 6-year medical history of each of these 200 patients was reconstituted (Long term disease registration [LTD], drug dispensings, procedure codes, hospitalizations, lab tests). These 200 cases were randomly divided into 2 groups of 100 cases. Two groups of independent experts including an urologist and an oncologist each adjudicated blindly the mCRPC status of 100 cases. In case of disagreement within a pair of experts, the 4 experts collegially assessed the case. Positive (PPV) and negative (NPV) predictive values of the algorithm were calculated.

Results: 92 out of 100 mCRPC cases and 93 out of 100 non-mCRPC cases were concordant between the experts and the algorithm, resulting in an algorithm PPV of 0.92 and a NPV of 0.93.

Conclusions: The wealth of data available in the SNDS makes it possible to implement algorithms to detect complex diseases, and to validate them *via* the reconstitution of medical history. The present results show good performance of the algorithm for the identification of mCRPC in the SNDS. In addition, the validation study detected some parameters that could be used to optimize the algorithm's performance.

Background

- **Prostate cancer**
 - Most common cancer among men: > 53 900 new cases in 2011 in France according to French National Cancer Institute
 - Slow-progressing cancer and possible development of resistance and / or metastases
 - Introduction of new therapeutic strategies in 1st-line treatment for metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC):
 - Abiraterone acetate in association with prednisone/prednisolone in 2012
 - Enzalutamide in 2014
- **CAMERA study**
 - Aims to identify mCRPC patients to assess the therapeutic strategic changes for mCRPC between 2012 and 2014 using the French National Healthcare System database (SNDS)
 - No direct indicator is available to identify mCRPC in the SNDS database
 - Need to develop an algorithm
 - Built from the permanent 1/97th random sample of SNDS, the "Echantillon Généraliste des Bénéficiaires" (EGB)
 - Executed in the SNDS

Declaration of Interest Statement

The CAMERA study is carried out by the Bordeaux PharmacoEpi platform in collaboration with Janssen® company and supervised by a scientific committee.

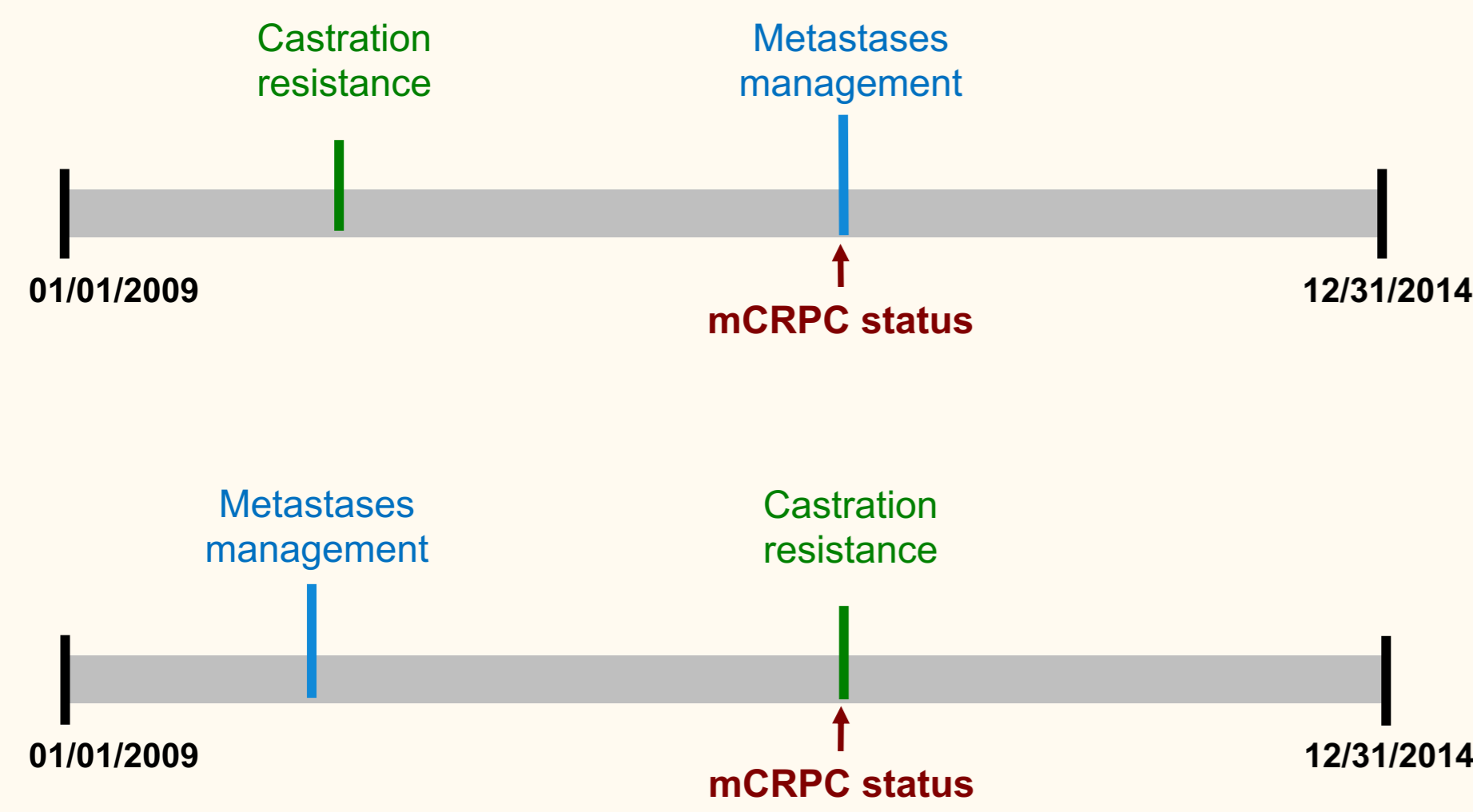
Objectives

- **To assess and validate the algorithm for mCRPC identification using the wealth of data available in the SNDS**

Methods

- **Data source:** extraction of SNDS data from 01/01/2009 to 12/31/2016 (2014 cohort of CAMERA study)
- **General approach**
 - ① Execution of the algorithm for cases identification
 - ② Assessment of randomly selected cases by a committee of experts
 - ③ Calculation of positive (PPV) and negative (NPV) predictive values of the algorithm

- **CAMERA algorithm, identification of patients in 4 steps**
 - Prostate cancer
 - Castration resistance
 - Metastases management
 - mCRPC status



A patient is considered mCRPC as soon as a 1st metastases management date and a castration resistance date are identified in his medical history (Figure 1)

Figure 1. Chronology between date of first metastases management, date of castration-resistance and mCRPC status

- **Validation Committee organisation (Figure 2)**
 - Random selection of 100 mCRPC cases and 100 non-mCRPC prostate cancer cases following the algorithm execution
 - Constitution of 2 experts pairs (1 urologist + 1 oncologist)
 - Blind review of the 200 cases using reconstituted pseudonymised medical history: 50 random mCRPC cases + 50 random non-mCRPC cases, per expert pair (Figures 3 & 4)
 - In case of disagreement within a pair of experts: the case was discussed by the 4 experts to reach consensus
 - Calculation of PPV and NPV of the algorithm based on committee conclusions and algorithm results

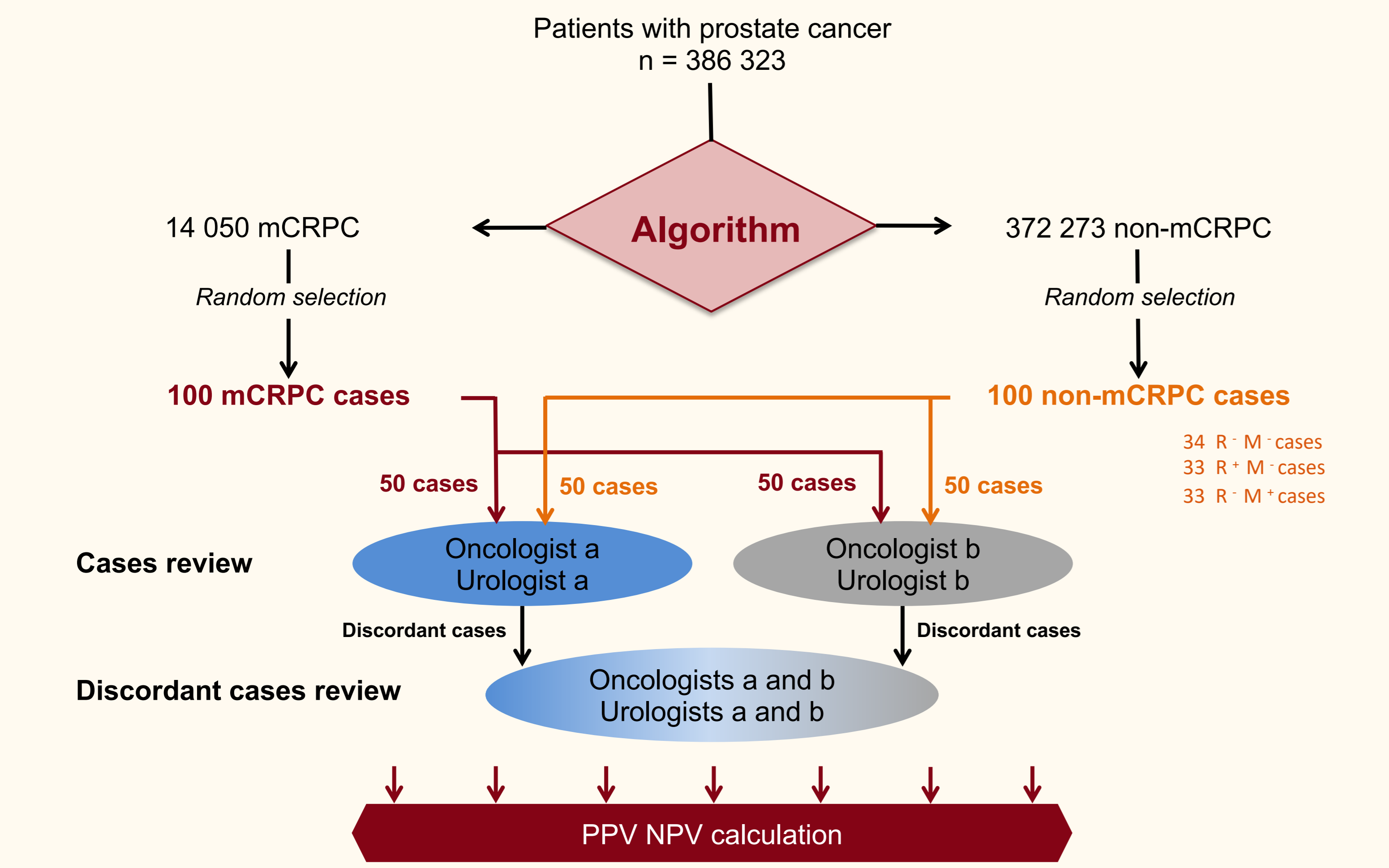


Figure 2. Validation Committee for CAMERA algorithm

Results

- **PPV and NPV calculation (Figure 5)**
 - Confirmation of 92 out of 100 mCRPC cases and 93 out of 100 non-mCRPC cases
 - PPV = 0.92 and NPV = 0.93

Algorithm		Experts		Total
		mCRPC +	mCRPC -	
	mCRPC +	92	8	100
	mCRPC -	7	93	100
	Total	99	101	200

Figure 5. PPV and NPV calculation

- **SNDS data formatting for cases review (Figure 3)**
 - For each case, medical chart was reconstructed using data of the 6-year SNDS extraction: Long term disease registration [LTD], hospitalizations, medical procedures (surgery, radiotherapy...), drug dispensings, lab tests, pathology, etc.
 - Addressing patient re-identification risk:
 - Calculation of relative dates (time from prostate cancer diagnosis date)
 - Deletion of "sensitive" variables (e.g. location, place of care, etc.)

Figure 3 shows a table of medical history for Patient PAT_7. Columns include 'Année d'initiation', 'Type de soins', 'Date de début d'exécution', 'Date de fin d'exécution', and 'Détail'. It lists various treatments, diagnostics, and hospitalizations with their respective dates and descriptions.

Figure 3. Reconstructed medical chart of patient using SNDS data

- **Summary sheet with experts conclusions (Figure 4)**
 - Summary of the main elements of the case
 - Age class
 - Year of diagnosis and survival duration
 - Charlson score and other cancers
 - Key steps of prostate cancer management
 - Key steps for prostate cancer management
 - Surgery
 - Androgen deprivation therapy
 - mCRPC specific treatment

Figure 4 is a summary sheet table for Patient PAT_7. It lists various indicators and their values, including initial diagnosis date, vital status, prostate cancer and other indicators, metastatic specific management, castration treatment, and prostate management details.

Figure 4. Summary sheet

- For each case, expert opinion on:
 - castration resistance
 - Presence of metastases
 - mCRPC status
- Expert decision clarified by free text

Conclusion

- **The wealth of data available in the SNDS enables**
 - ✓ The implementation of algorithms to detect complex diseases
 - ✓ The validation of these algorithms *via* the reconstitution of pseudonymized medical charts based on SNDS data
- **Here, the validation study**
 - ✓ Shows **good performances** of the algorithm for mCRPC identification
 - ✓ Allows to adjust some parameters to **optimize the algorithm performances**
 - ✓ Will provide a **validated algorithm** generating **accurate estimation** of the number of **mCRPC cases** in France, as well as a description of their characteristics and therapeutic changes

