



Dosing regimen optimisation of vedolizumab in pregnancy through physiologically-motivated sequential NLME modelling of albumin trends and vedolizumab PK

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Pregnant patients: "therapeutic orphans"



Safety of mother and foetus



Active IBD → adverse pregnancy outcomes¹

- Vedolizumab blocks T-cells trafficking in gut
- **Dosing intensification** to achieve remission

Most mAbs cross placenta (3rd trimester)

Vedolizumab: **low risk** for foetus²

¹Bröms et al. (2014), ²Torres et al. (2023), ³Digestive Disease week 2024,

⁴Grišić et al. (2021), ⁵Menshykau et al. (2024), ⁶Kardouh et al. (2025)

Continuation of 3rd trimester dosing³

Limited understanding of mAbs PK in pregnancy^{4,5,6}

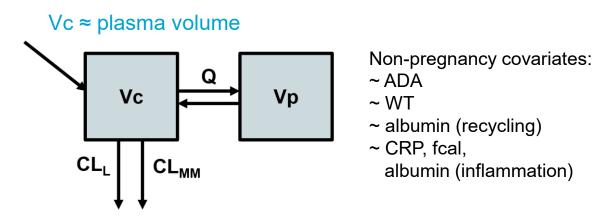
Impact of pregnancy on vedolizumab PK and its **variability**? Dosing regimen adjustments throughout pregnancy to maintain pre-pregnancy exposure?



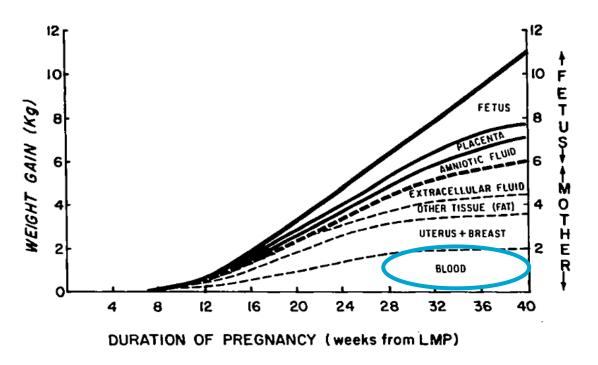
Zrinka Duvniak | Introduction



PK of mAbs and pregnancy



- High IIV in degree of plasma expansion¹
- Decrease in albumin concentration during pregnancy primarily explained by haemodilution²



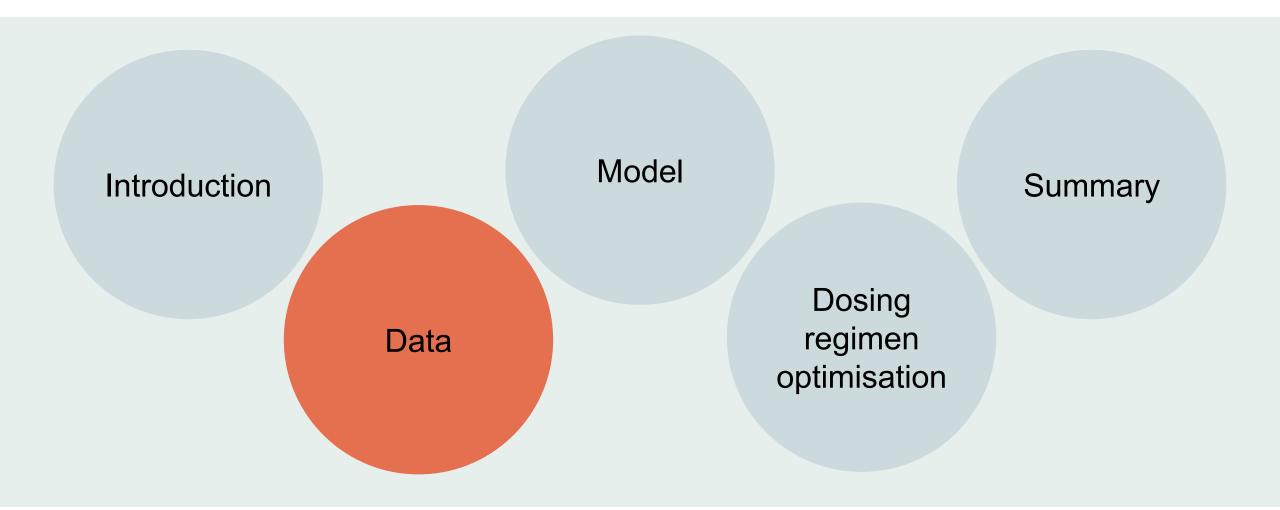
Use of albumin change as a biomarker of plasma expansion?

(mixed-effects model of albumin trends)





Outline



Available PK data



OUH Odense Universitetshospital

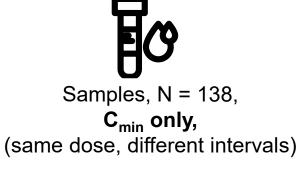


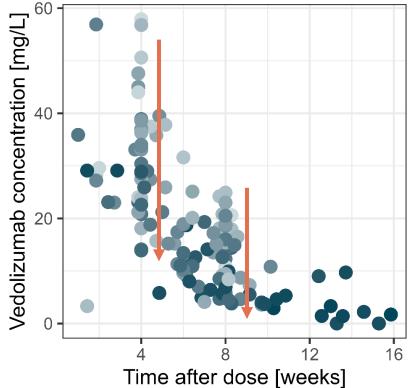






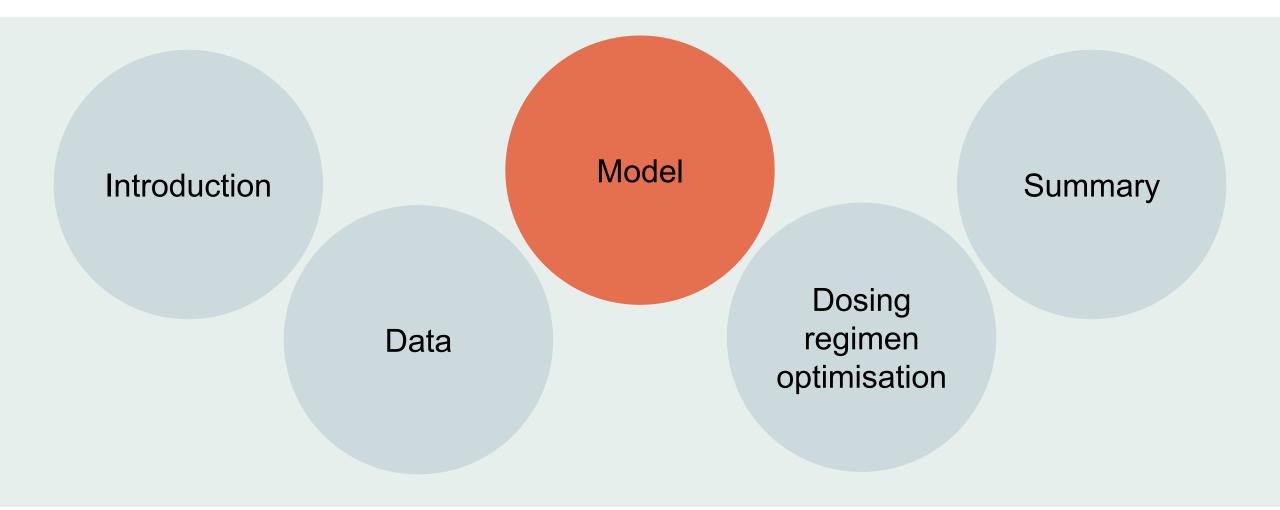
Samples per patient median: 3, range: 2-5







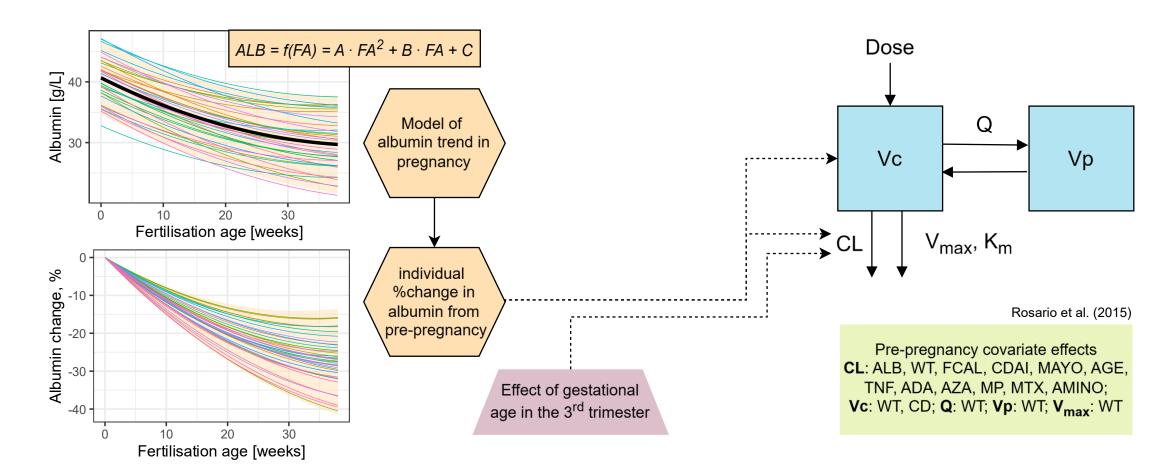
Outline



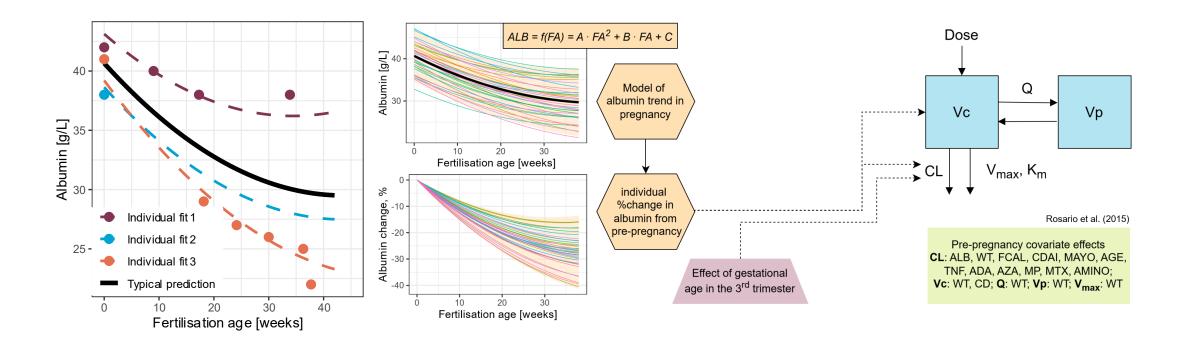


Albumin trends and vedolizumab PK in pregnancy

- sequential mixed-effects modelling



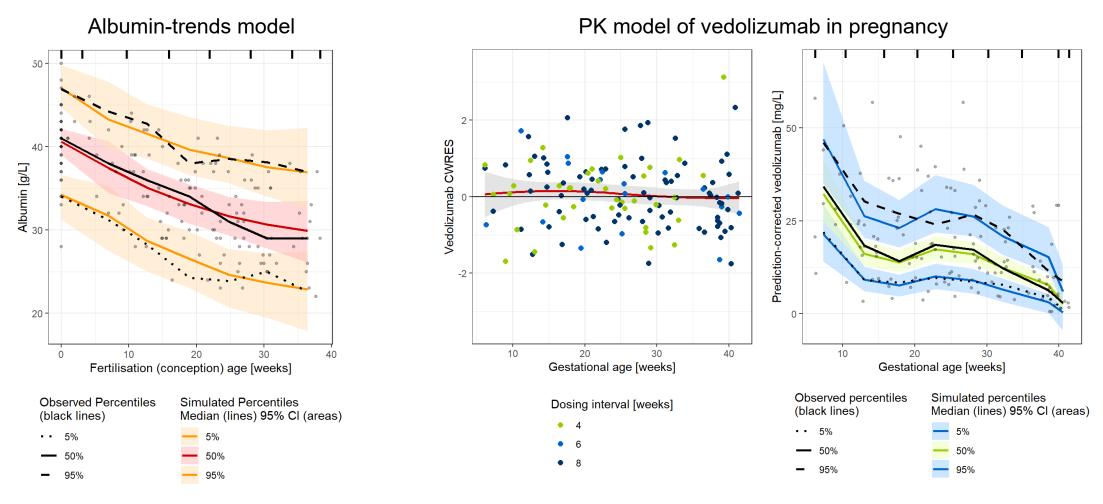
Approach advantages



- Albumin measurements not assumed to be error-free, correcting for changes in inflammation status,
- Suitable way of dealing with missing covariate data
- Exploration of covariates

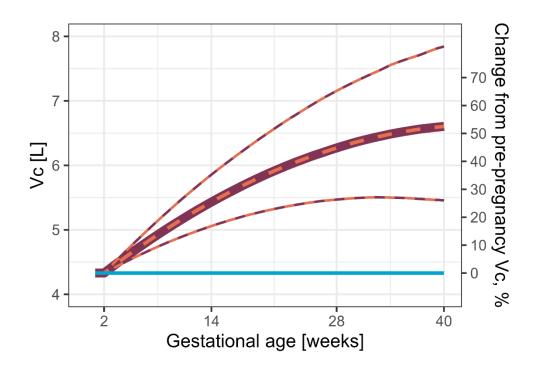
- Size of the pregnancy effect individualised
- Estimation of pre-pregnancy structural parameters possible

Model described the data well

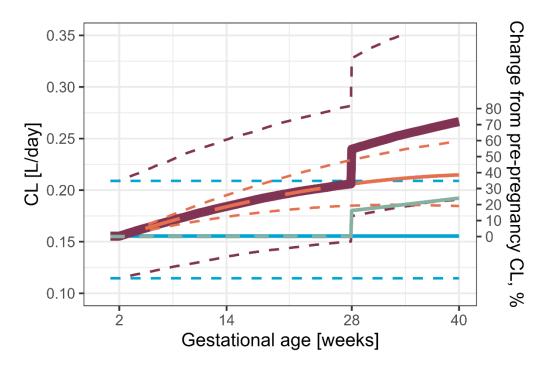


All parameters were estimated with good precision

Impact of pregnancy on structural parameters

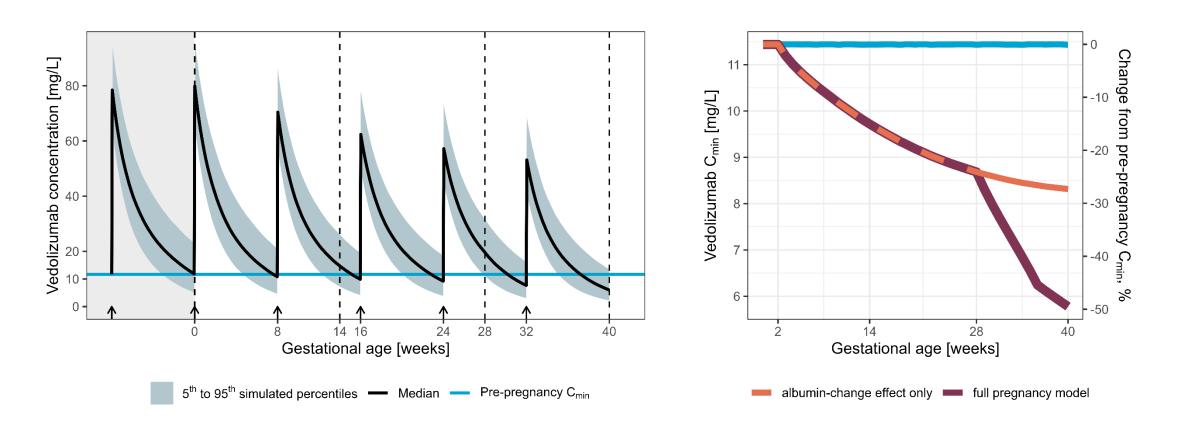


- Vc estimate reasonable for vedolizumab
- Estimated %increase in Vc (52%) aligns with reported extent of plasma expansion (50%)¹



- Most of variability is pre-pregnancy variability
- CL is estimated to increase less than Vc (due to albumin change)
- 3rd trimester effect aligns with the drop in endogenous IgG levels ²

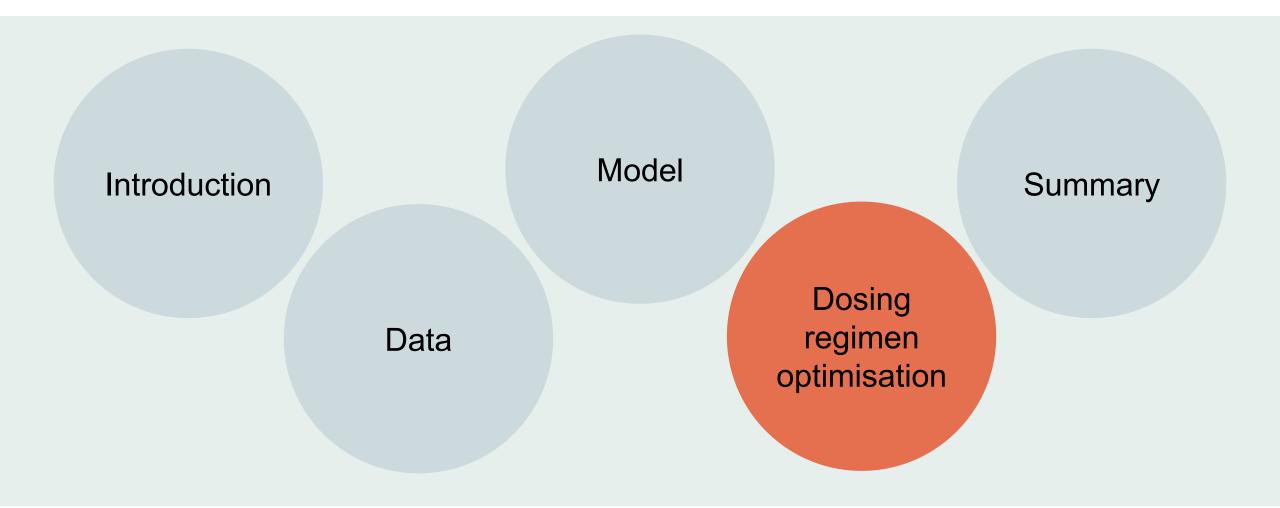
Impact of pregnancy on PK profile



Exposure gradually decreased: >20% until end of the 2nd trimester and 50% at the end of pregnancy

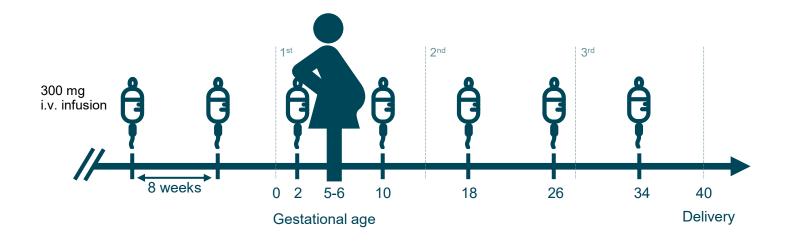
Need for dosing regimen optimisation?

Outline

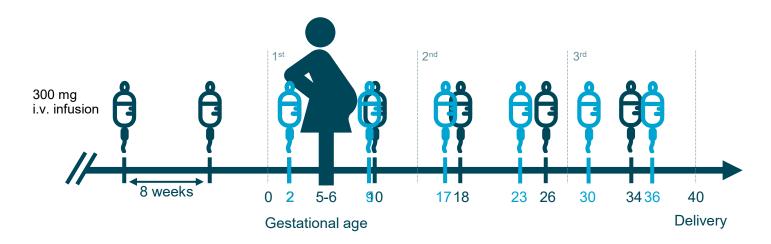




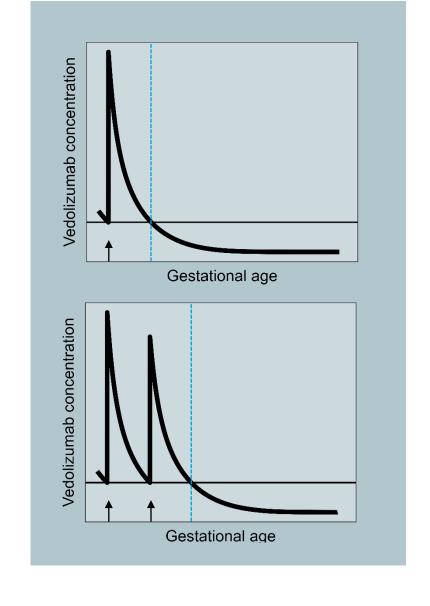
Dosing regimen



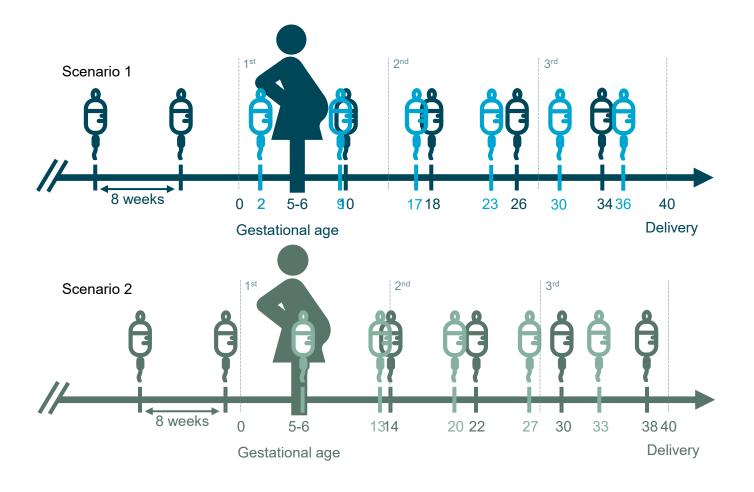
Dosing regimen optimisation



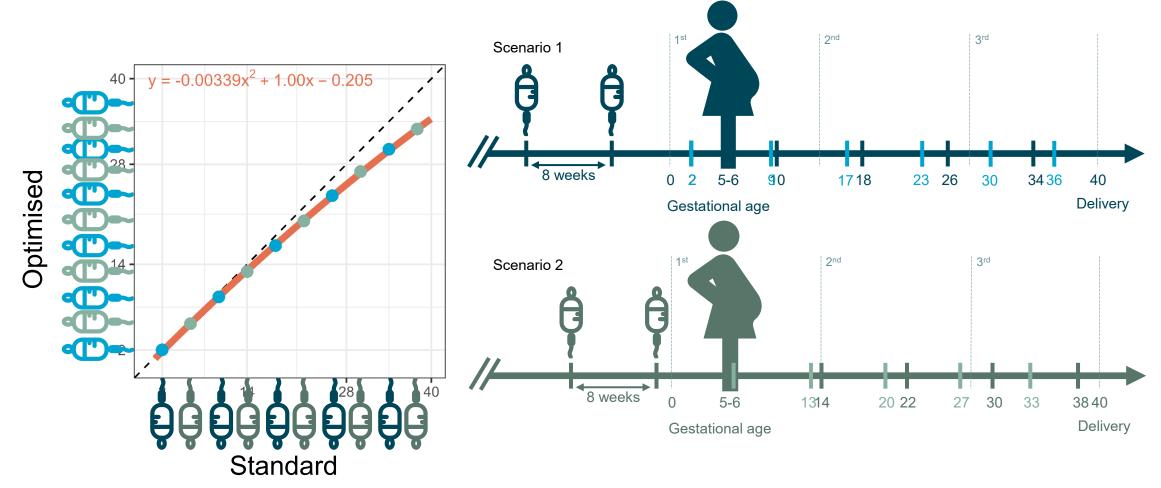
To maintain pre-pregnancy C_{min} dosing interval was gradually shortened



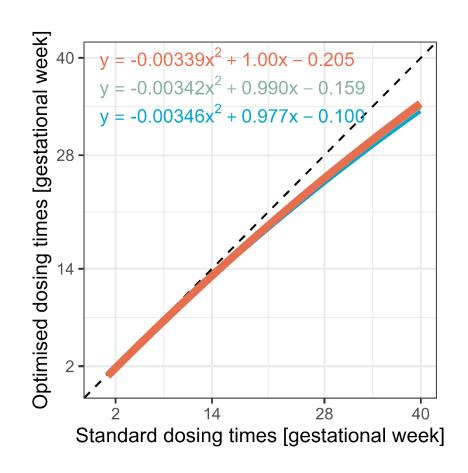
Dosing regimen optimisation

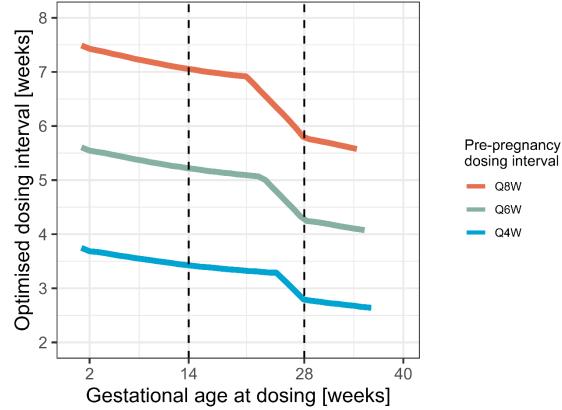


Dosing regimen optimisation

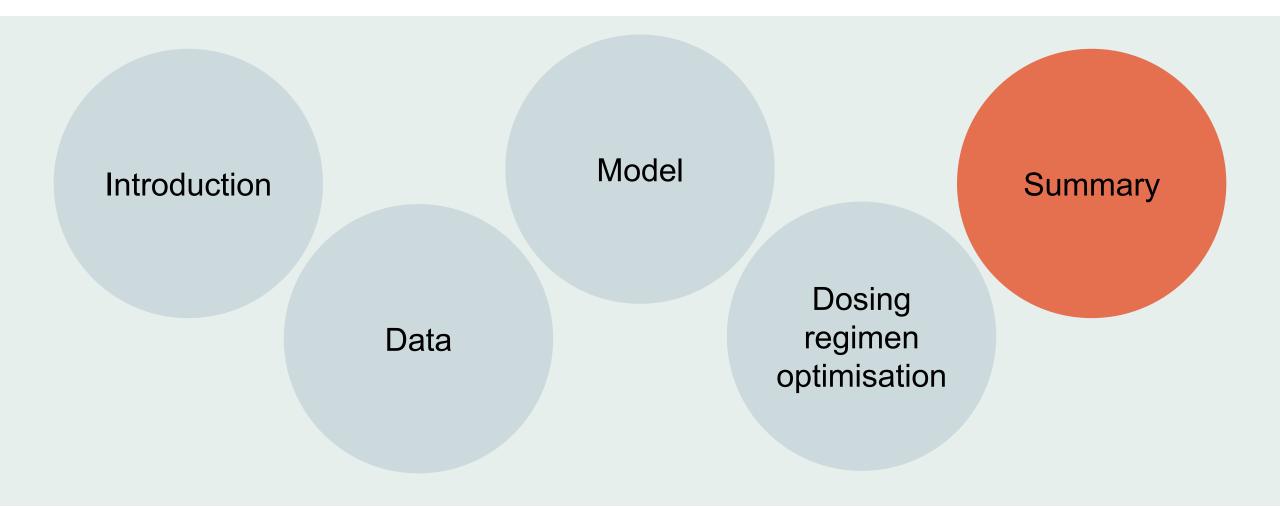


Optimised dosing regimen generalisation



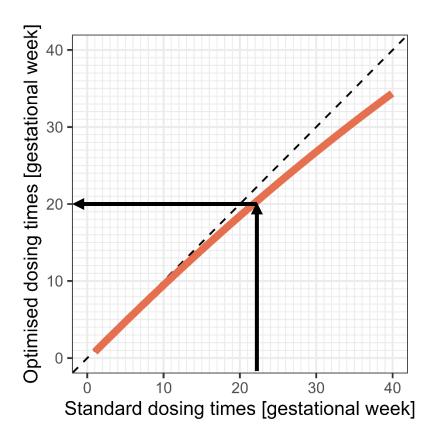


Outline



Physiologically-motivated model

- Albumin change (%) from pre-pregnancy biomarker of plasma expansion
 - model of albumin trends in pregnancy –
 dealing with missing data, covariates exploration, effect isolation
 - → Vc estimated to typically increase 52% same as reported extent of plasma expansion
- Residual effect of gestational age on CL found to start in the 3rd trimester
 - → coinciding with the drop in endogenous IgG (transplacental transfer)
- C_{min} typically dropped:
 - >20% by the end of the 2nd trimester **50% by the end of pregnancy**
- Nomogram-like plot for deriving optimised times to keep pre-pregnancy vedolizumab concentrations
 - → covering all timings of pregnancy onset



Perspective: clinical relevance, Shiny app

Acknowledgements









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