

**INEBRIA**

International Network on  
Brief Interventions for Alcohol  
Problems

**INAUGURAL CONFERENCE**

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**Symposium:**  
**Brief Interventions in a Range of Settings**

**General Hospital - Maria Emmen**

**Discussion: Mats Berglund**

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# Agenda

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- # Power of individual studies
  - # Differences in outcome measures
  - # Subgroups of hospital patients
  - # Effect sizes in GP and hospital studies
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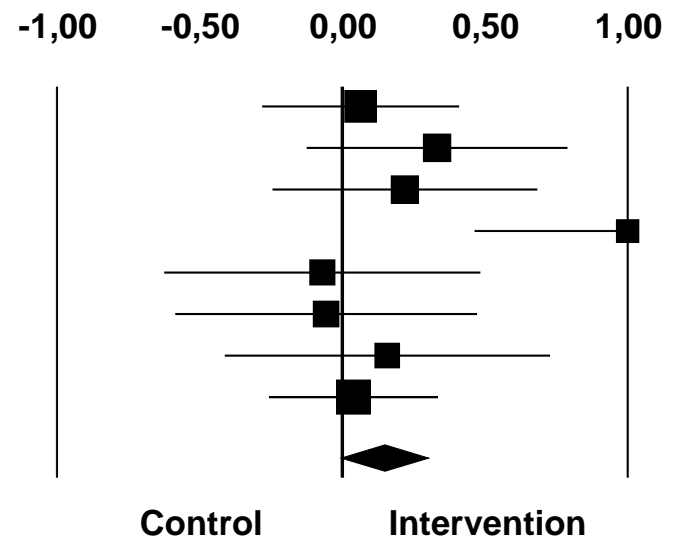
# Power of individual studies

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- # Most of the hospital studies are underpowered
  - # Results were transformed to standardized effect sizes (d)
    - 0.2-0.5 Small effect
    - 0.5-0.8 Moderate effect
    - 0.8- Strong effect
  - # Comprehensive Meta-Analysis Software Program (*Borenstein & Rothstein 1998*) was used
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# Standardized effect sizes

Citation	Effect	Lower	Upper	N	Total P	Value
Chick 1985	,06	-,28	,41	133	,71	
Heather B 1996	,33	-,12	,79	80	,14	
Heather S 1996	,22	-,24	,68	76	,34	
Maheswaran 1992	1,15	,46	1,84	41	,00	
Watson A 1999	-,07	-,62	,48	54	,80	
Watson B 1999	-,06	-,58	,47	58	,83	
Watson BA 1999	,16	-,41	,73	52	,57	
Welte 1998	,04	-,26	,33	276	,79	
<b>Fixed Combined (8)</b>	<b>,15</b>	<b>,00</b>	<b>,30</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>,06</b>	



# Outcomes

***Moyer 2002***  
**6-12 months**

Composite of drinking outcomes

**0.24**

(N=23 homogeneous)

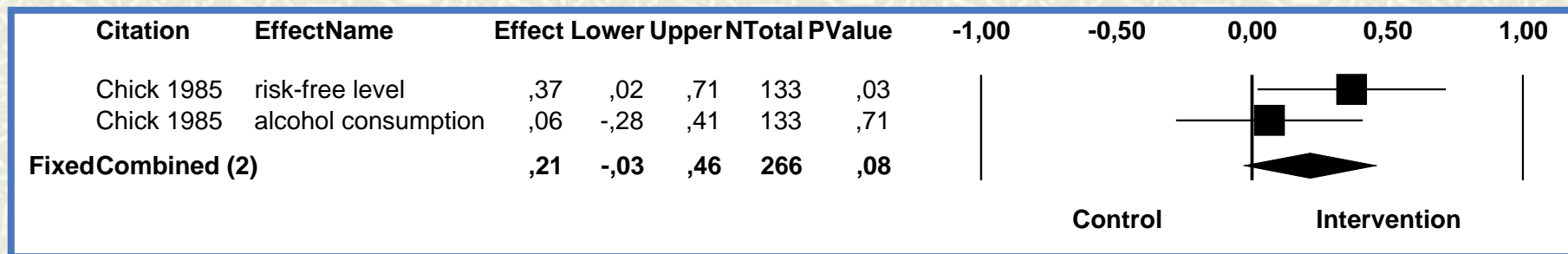
Change in alcohol consumption

**0.26**

(N=20 heterogeneous)

Change to "risk-free" consumption  
***(SBU, Salaspuro 2001, 2003)***

# Comparision of different outcomes



# Subgroups

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Patients in general hospital wards

*(Chick 1985)*

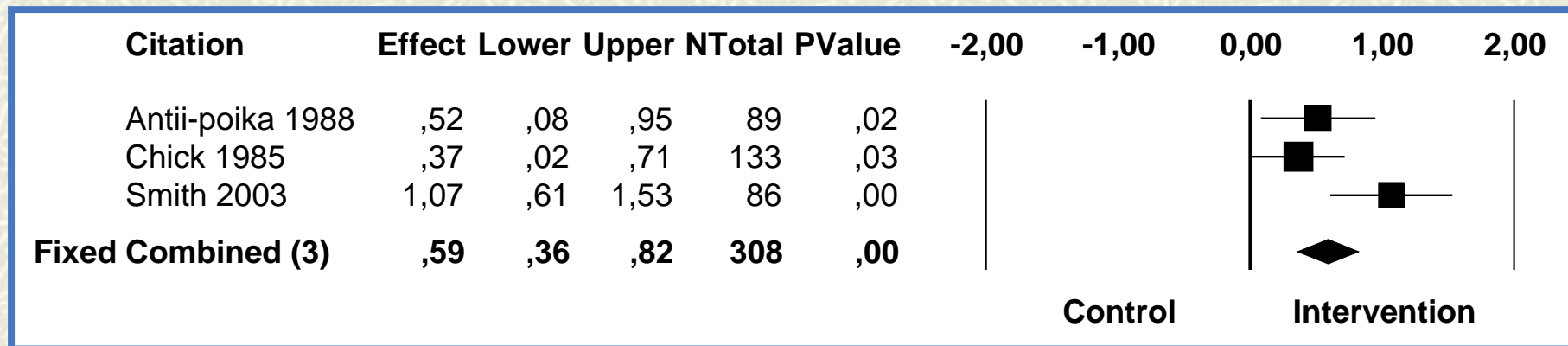
versus

injured patients

*(Antii-poika 1988, Smith 2003)*

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# Subgroups





# Setting

## General practitioner versus hospital

setting	Citation	Effect	Upper	Lower	NTotal	-2,00	-1,00	0,00	1,00	2,00
GP	Anderson 1992	,37	,69	,05	154					
GP	Cushman 1998	,39	,55	,23	641					
GP	Fleming 1997	,63	,85	,41	336					
GP	Fleming 1999	1,38	1,75	1,02	145					
GP	Heather 1987	,16	,60	-,28	91					
GP	Ochene 1999	,24	,41	,07	530					
GP	Richmond 1995	,08	,38	-,22	197					
GP	Scott 1990	,16	,63	-,31	72					
GP	Wallace 1988	,39	,52	,26	907					
GP	WHO 1996	,18	,29	,07	1558					
GP	Wutzke 2002	1,33	1,63	1,02	209					
<b>Fixed</b>	<b>GP (11)</b>	<b>,37</b>	<b>,43</b>	<b>,31</b>	<b>4840</b>					
<b>Random</b>	<b>GP (11)</b>	<b>,48</b>	<b>,67</b>	<b>,28</b>	<b>4840</b>					
Hospital	Antti-poika 1988	,52	,95	,08	89					
Hospital	Chick 1985	,37	,71	,02	133					
Hospital	Smith 2003	1,08	1,54	,62	86					
<b>Fixed</b>	<b>Hospital (3)</b>	<b>,59</b>	<b>,83</b>	<b>,36</b>	<b>308</b>					
<b>Random</b>	<b>Hospital (3)</b>	<b>,64</b>	<b>1,05</b>	<b>,22</b>	<b>308</b>					
<b>Fixed</b>	<b>Combined (14)</b>	<b>,38</b>	<b>,44</b>	<b>,32</b>	<b>5148</b>					
<b>Random</b>	<b>Combined (14)</b>	<b>,51</b>	<b>,68</b>	<b>,33</b>	<b>5148</b>					

Favors Control

Favors Intervention

# Conclusions

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- # Effect sizes in many intervention studies of hospital patients are as good as in GP-studies
  - # Validity of outcome measures is important (perhaps influenced by proportion of subjects with alcohol dependence)
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