Bayesian Approaches to Health Decision Science

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Abstract: The Bayesian statistical paradigm is naturally suited to analysing decision problems. It permits the direct incorporation of all evidence, and allows for considerations of the utility associated with different outcomes. Recently, the Health Research Board supported funding for a National Bayesian Centre for Health Decision Sciences to be hosted within the Department of Statistics at Trinity College Dublin, and with partners at the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics in Ireland, Universities of York and Sheffield in the UK and Harvard School of Public Health in Boston. The main themes of the initial phase of the grant are model calibration, evidence synthesis and multi criteria decision analysis. This talk provides an overview of the field, and a synopsis of the research themes.