

SCREENING FOR DISEASE

FirstRanker

SCREENING TEST RESULT BY DIA

| Screening test results | Diagnosis | |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | Diseased | Not Diseased |
| Positive | a (True positive) | b (False positive) |
| Negative | c (False negative) | d (True negative) |
| Total | a + c | b + d |

- a-** those with positive test result, and who have the disease
- b-** those with positive test result, but who do not have the disease
- c-** those with negative test results, but who have the disease
- d-** those with negative results who do not have the disease

EVALUATION OF A SCREENING TEST

The following measures are used to evaluate a screening test

- (a) Sensitivity $= a / (a + c)$
- (b) Specificity $= d / (b + d)$
- (c) Predictive value of a positive test $= a / (a + b)$
- (d) Predictive value of a negative test $= d / (c + d)$
- (e) Percentage of false negatives $= c / (a + c)$
- (f) Percentage of false positive $= b / (b + d)$

SCREENING TEST RESULT BY DIA

| Screening test results | Diagnosis | |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | Diseased | Not Diseased |
| Positive | 40 (a) | 20 (b) |
| Negative | 100 (c) | 9840 (d) |
| Total | 140 (a + c) | 9860 (b + d) |

EVALUATION OF A SCREENING TEST

(a) Sensitivity $= (40 / 140) \times 100 =$
(true positive)

(b) Specificity $= (9840 / 9860) \times 100 =$
(true negative)

(c) False negative $= (100 / 140) \times 100 =$

(d) False positive $= (20 / 9860) \times 100 =$

(e) Predictive value $= (40 / 60) \times 100 =$
of a positive test

(f) Predictive value $= (9840 / 9940) \times 100 =$
of a negative test

SENSITIVITY

- This term was introduced by Yarushalmy in 1940 as an index of diagnostic accuracy.
- **Definition:** Ability of a test to identify correctly those who have the disease, that is “**true positive**”.
- A 90 percent sensitivity means that 90 percent of people screened by the test will give a “**true positive**” and the remaining 10 percent will give a “**false negative**”.

SPECIFICITY

- **Definition:** The ability of a test to identify correctly those who do not have a disease that is the “**true negative**”.
- A 90 percent specificity means that the 90 percent of non-diseased persons will give a true negative result. The 10 percent of non-diseased people screened by the test will be classified as “**diseased**” when they are not.

Over Lapping of distribution

- In diagnostic tests that yield a quantitative result (e.g. blood sugar and blood pressure) the situation is different.
- There will be overlapping of the distribution of diseased and non diseased persons.
- False positive and false negative comprises the
- When there is distribution overlap it is not possible to assign the individuals with these values to either of the diseases group on the basis of screening alone.

Diagnosis of brain tumours by EEG

| EEG results | Brain tumour | |
|-------------|--------------|--------|
| | Present | Absent |
| Positive | 36 | 4 |
| Negative | 4 | 306 |
| Total | 40 | 310 |

(a) Sensitivity = $36 / 40 \times 100 = 90\%$

(b) Specificity = $306,000 / 360,000 \times 100 = 85\%$

Diagnosis of brain tumours by Computed assisted axial tomography

| CAT results | Brain tumour | |
|-------------|--------------|--------|
| | Present | Absent |
| Positive | 39 | 1 |
| Negative | 1 | 359 |
| Total | 40 | 360 |

(a) Sensitivity = $39 / 40 \times 100 = 97.5\%$

(b) Specificity = $342,000 / 360,000 \times 100 = 95\%$

PREDICTIVE ACCURACY

- In addition to sensitivity and specificity, the performance of a screening test is measured by its “**Predictive value**”, which reflects the diagnostic power of the test.
- **Depends on:**
 - a. Sensitivity
 - b. Specificity
 - c. Disease prevalence

PREDICTIVE ACCURACY

- The “**Predictive value of a positive test**” indicates the probability that a patient with a positive test result has the disease in question.
- The more prevalent a disease is in a given population, the more accurate will be the predictive value of a positive test result.
- The predictive value of a positive result falls as the disease prevalence declines.

FALSE NEGATIVES AND POSITIVES

- **FALSE NEGATIVES:** Means that patients who actually have the disease are told that they do not have the disease, giving them a “**false reassurance**”
- These patients with “**false negative**” test results may delay the development of signs and symptoms and may postpone treatment.
- A screening test which is very sensitive has few false negatives.
- The lower the sensitivity, the larger will be the number of false negatives.

- **FALSE POSITIVES:** “**False positives**” means that people who do not have the disease are told that they have it.
- In this case, normal healthy people may be subjected to diagnostic tests, at some inconvenience - until the disease is established.
- A screening test with a high specificity will have fewer false positives.
- False positives not only burden the diagnostic facilities but also bring discredit to screening programs.

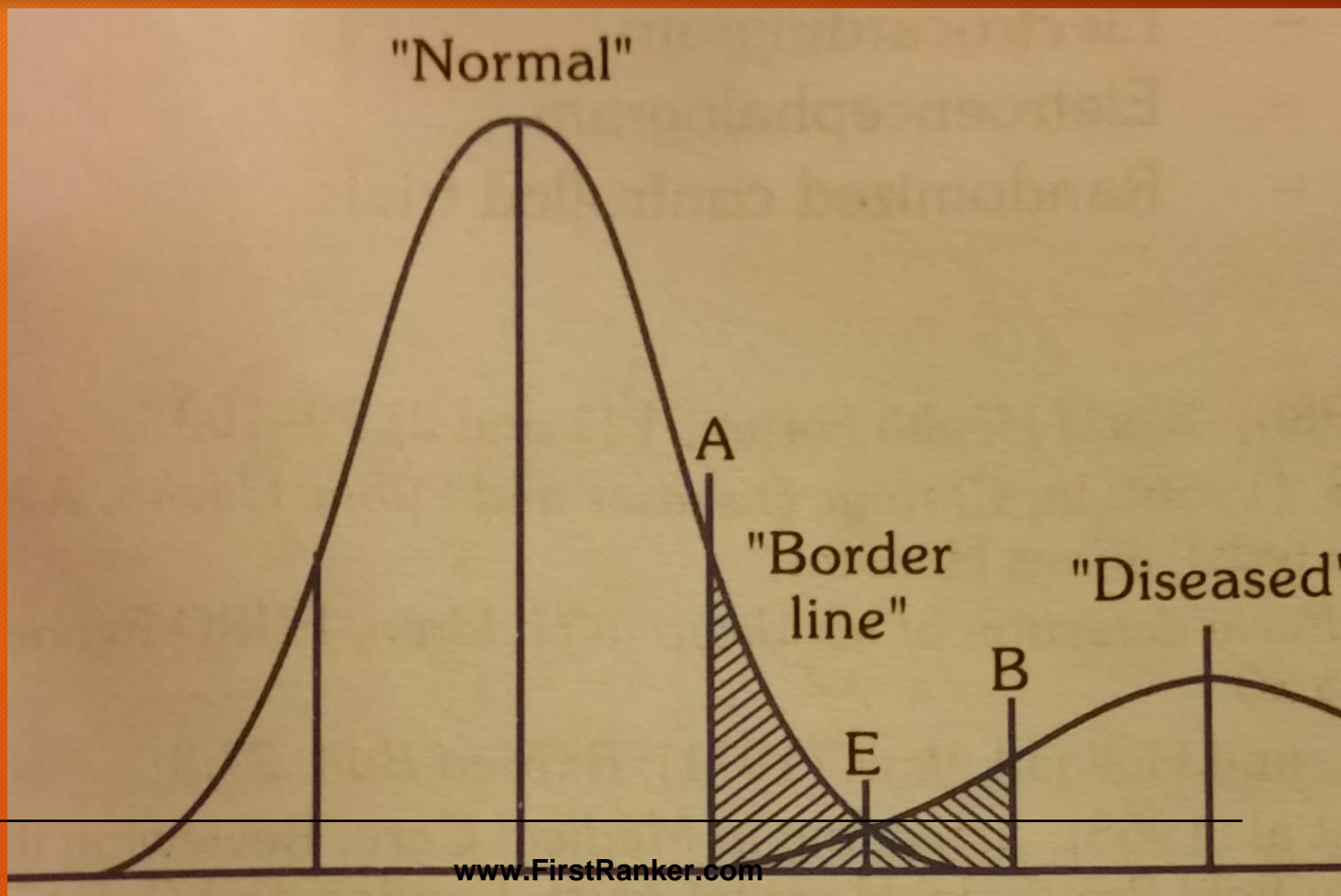
YIELD

- **Yield** : It is the amount of previously unrecognized disease diagnosed as a result of the screening effort.
- **Depends on:**
 - a. Sensitivity
 - b. Specificity
 - c. Prevalence of disease
 - d. Participation of the individual
- **Example:** By limiting a diabetes screening program to people over 40 years, we can increase the yield of screening.
- High risk populations are usually selected for screening to increase yield.

COMBINATION OF TESTS

- Two or more tests can be combined to enhance sensitivity of screening.
- **Example: Syphilis screening** affords an example screeners are first evaluated by an RPR test.
- This test has high sensitivity, yet will yield false
- However all those positives to RPR are then sub which is a more specific test, and the resultant have syphilis.

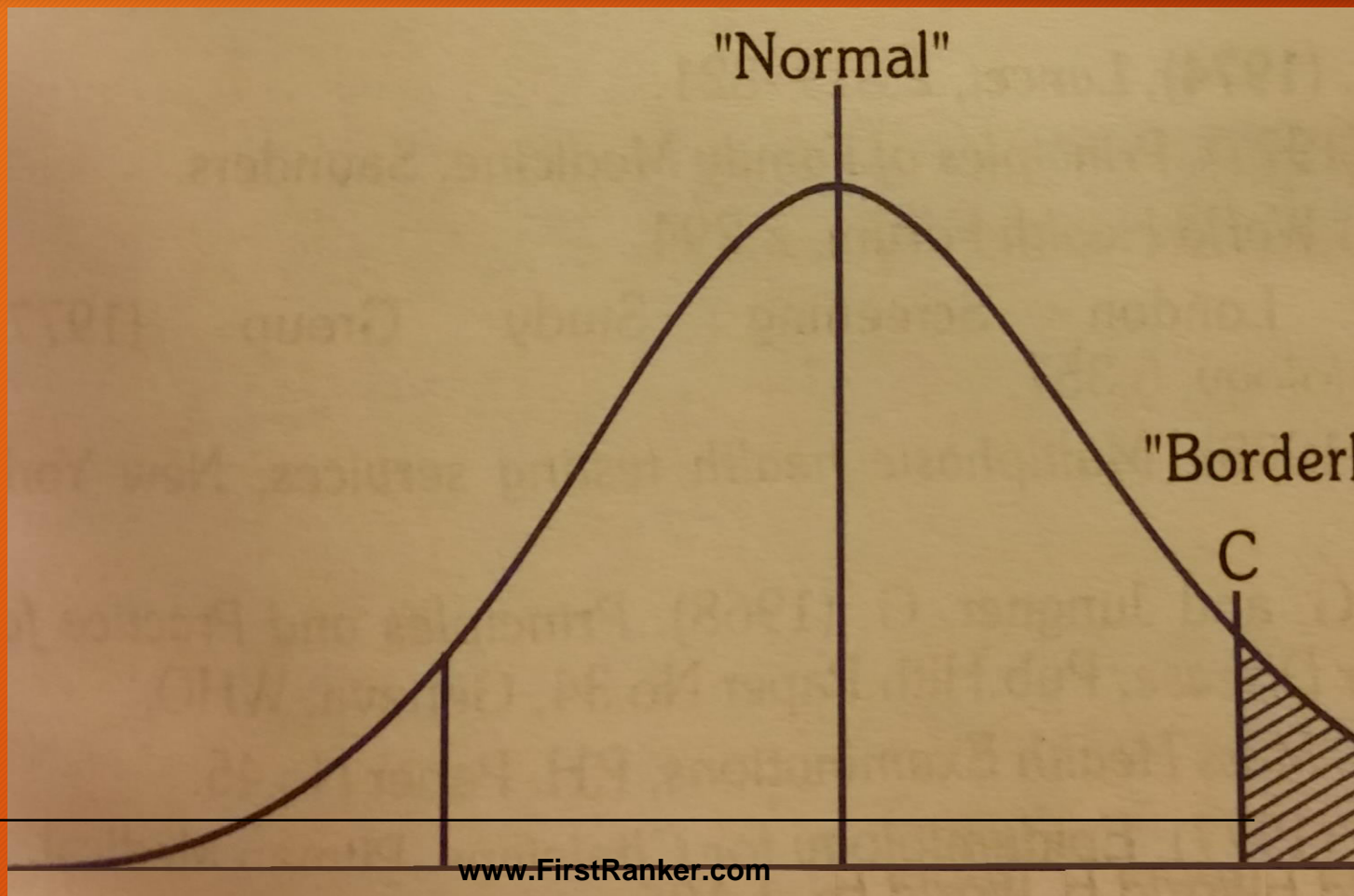
a. Bimodal Distribution in a population



PROBLEM OF BORDERLINE

- **Figure a:** Is a bimodal distribution of a variable and “**diseased population**”. Note that the two
- If the disease is bimodal, as may be expected in genetically transmitted characteristics, the shaded “**border-line**” group will comprise a mixture of disease and persons without the disease (i.e mixture of positive and false negatives).
- The point at which the distribution intersect (i.e. frequently used as the **cut-off point** between the “**diseased**” persons, because it will generally minimize positives and false negatives.

b. Unimodal Distribution in a pop



- **Figure b:** Is a Unimodal distribution. Many variables like blood pressure, blood sugar, show this type of distribution. These variables are continuously distributed around the mean, forming a normal or skewed distribution.
- In these observations, there is no sharp dividing line between “normal” and “diseased”.
- The “borderline” groups, (C-D) will comprise a large sample of persons. The question arises whether the boundary between the disease and normality should be set at C or D.

- If the **cut- off** point is set at a level of A or C, it test highly sensitive, missing few cases but yielding positives.
- If the **cut-off** point is set at B or D, it will increase the test.
- Furthermore in the unimodal distribution, once has been adopted, all persons above the level (would be regarded a **“diseased”**.

- **Example: Diabetes**

- If the **cut-off** point for blood glucose is lowered (say less than 120 mg per cent), the sensitivity increased at the cost of specificity.
- If the **cut-off** point is raised (say to 180 mg per cent), sensitivity is decreased.
- In other words no blood sugar level which will enable the separation of all those with the disease from those without the disease.

PROBLEM OF BORDERLINE

- In Screening a prior decision is made about the basis of which individuals are classified as “**diseased**”
- **Factors:**
 - a. **Disease Prevalence:** When prevalence is high screening level is set at a low level which will sensitivity.
 - b. **The Disease:** If the disease is very lethal (Certain early detection improves prognosis, a greater sensitivity, even at the expense of specificity,

POINTS TO BE TAKEN IN CONSIDERATION

1. People who participate in the screening program should be those who have most to gain from it. Example
2. Test with greater accuracy may be more expensive, more time consuming, and the choice of the test therefore may be on compromise
3. Screening should not be developed in isolation but should be integrated into the existing health services.
4. The risks as well as the expected benefits must be weighed for the people to be screened. Risk include complete loss of time, possibility of false positive and false negative.

SOME SCREENING TESTS

Pregnancy

| |
|------------------------|
| Anaemia |
| Hypertension Toxemia |
| Rh status |
| Syphilis (VDRL Test) |
| Diabetes |
| Cardiovascular disease |
| Neural tube defects |
| Down's syndrome |
| HIV |

Middle-aged

| |
|-------------------|
| Hypertension |
| Cancer |
| Diabetes mellitus |
| Serum cholesterol |
| Obesity |
| Hypertension |

SOME SCREENING TESTS

Infancy

| |
|-------------------------------|
| LCB |
| Congenital dislocation of hip |
| Congenital heart disease |
| Spina bifida |
| Cerebral palsy |
| Hearing defects |

| |
|-----------------|
| Visual defects |
| Hypothyroidism |
| Developmental |
| Haemoglobinop |
| Sickle cell ana |
| Undescended te |

EVALUATION OF SCREENING PRO

- **1. Randomized control Trials:** In this one group screening test, and a control which receives no
- **Example:** Cancers. If the disease has a low frequency in the population, and a long incubation period RCT may be followed following tens of thousands of people for 10-20 years with perfect record keeping .

EVALUATION OF SCREENING PRO

- **2. Uncontrolled Trials:** These are used to see if disease detected through screening appear to live longer than diagnosis and treatment than patients who were
- **Example:** Uncontrolled study of Cervical cancer indicated that deaths from that disease could be reduced if every women was examined periodically

EVALUATION OF SCREENING PRO

- **3.Other Methods:** Methods like Case Control study, comparison in trends between areas with different screening coverage.
- It can be determined whether intervention by screening is better than the conventional method of management.

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THANKS