Title: Quantitative summaries of treatment effect estimates obtained with network meta-analysis of survival curves to inform decision-making

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Reviewer: Cinzia Del Giovane

Reviewer's report:

The paper provides a summary of different alternative approaches to summarize and present results of a network meta-analysis (NMA) (in a Bayesian context) of survival data based on parametric curves with rank probabilities. The different effect measures in relation to ranking the treatment ranking can be divided into time independent measures and time-varying measures.

The manuscript is innovative, interesting and well-structured. The network meta-analysis methodology is a recent statistical method used to synthesize evidence from RCTs for multiple intervention and it increasingly used in the medical literature. One of the potentiality of the NMA, when it is performed in a Bayesian framework, is that a ranking of the treatments included in the network can be calculated according to their effectiveness. Such possibility facilitates decision-making. However many and more methodological aspects still have to be investigated. I guess that in this paper the authors explored one of these aspects when survival data are analyzed using NMA with appropriated methods and conclusions well supported by the data. Therefore for me only 1 minor essential revision should be done:

1. report that in the legend of the figure 2B and in the document text confidence intervals are showed.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.