

meta update — Update, describe, and clear meta-analysis settings

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Description

`meta update` updates certain components of the meta-analysis after it was declared by `meta set` or `meta esize`. This command is useful for updating some of the meta settings without having to fully respecify your meta-analysis variables. The updated settings will be used throughout the rest of your meta-analysis session.

`meta query` reports whether the data in memory are `meta data` and, if they are, displays the current meta setting information identical to that produced by `meta set` or `meta esize`.

`meta clear` clears meta settings, including meta data characteristics and system variables. The original data remain unchanged. You do not need to use `meta clear` before doing another `meta set` or `meta esize`.

Quick start

Check whether data are declared as meta data, and, if they are, describe their current meta-analysis setting information

```
meta query
```

Keep the same meta-analysis setting (specified earlier using `meta set` or `meta esize`), but use a DerSimonian–Laird random-effects model

```
meta update, random(dlaird)
```

Keep the same meta-analysis setting (specified earlier using `meta esize`), but use the log risk-ratio as the effect size

```
meta update, esize(lnrratio)
```

Clear meta-analysis declaration

```
meta clear
```

Menu

Statistics > Meta-analysis

Syntax

Update meta-analysis settings declared using `meta esize` for continuous outcomes

```
meta update [ , options_continuous options ]
```

Update meta-analysis settings declared using `meta esize` for binary outcomes

```
meta update [ , options_binary options ]
```

Update meta-analysis settings declared using `meta set`

```
meta update [ , options_generic options ]
```

Describe meta data

```
meta query [ , short ]
```

Clear meta data

```
meta clear
```

<i>options_continuous</i>	Description
<code>esize(<i>esspecct</i>)</code>	specify effect size for continuous outcome to be used in the meta-analysis
<code>random[(<i>remethod</i>)]</code>	random-effects meta-analysis
<code>common</code>	common-effect meta-analysis; implies inverse-variance method
<code>fixed</code>	fixed-effects meta-analysis; implies inverse-variance method
<i>options_binary</i>	Description
<code>esize(<i>estypebin</i>)</code>	specify effect size for binary outcome to be used in the meta-analysis
<code>random[(<i>remethod</i>)]</code>	random-effects meta-analysis
<code>common[(<i>cefemethod</i>)]</code>	common-effect meta-analysis
<code>fixed[(<i>cefemethod</i>)]</code>	fixed-effects meta-analysis
<code>zerocells(<i>zcspec</i>)</code>	adjust for zero cells during computation; default is to add 0.5 to all cells of those 2×2 tables that contain zero cells
<i>options_generic</i>	Description
<code>random[(<i>remethod</i>)]</code>	random-effects meta-analysis
<code>common</code>	common-effect meta-analysis; implies inverse-variance method
<code>fixed</code>	fixed-effects meta-analysis; implies inverse-variance method
<code>studysize(<i>varname</i>)</code>	total sample size per study

<i>options</i>	Description
<code>studylabel(<i>varname</i>)</code>	variable to be used to label studies in all meta-analysis output
<code>eslabel(<i>string</i>)</code>	effect-size label to be used in all meta-analysis output; default is <code>eslabel(Effect size)</code>
<code>llevel(#)</code>	confidence level for all subsequent meta-analysis commands
<code>[no]metashow</code>	display or suppress meta settings in the output

Options

For meta update options, see [Options of \[META\] meta set](#) and [Options of \[META\] meta esize](#).

`short` is used with `meta query`. It displays a short summary of the meta settings containing the information about the declared type of the effect size, effect-size variables and standard error variables, and meta-analysis model and estimation method. This option does not appear on the dialog box.

Remarks and examples

[stata.com](http://www.stata.com)

When conducting a meta-analysis, you may wish to explore how your results are affected by modifying certain characteristics of your model. For example, suppose you are using log odds-ratios as your effect sizes and the DerSimonian–Laird random-effects model. You want to investigate how your results would change if you were to use log risk-ratios instead. You could use `meta esize`, but you would need to respecify all four of your summary-data variables.

```
. meta esize summary'data, esize(lnrratio) random(dlaird)
```

Instead, you can use `meta update` to simply update the effect sizes.

```
. meta update, esize(lnrratio)
```

`meta update` will run `meta esize` keeping all the model components unchanged except for those you specified.

You can use `meta query` to describe the current meta-analysis settings. With `meta` data in memory, `meta query` produces the same output as `meta set` and `meta esize`. If the data in memory are not declared to be `meta` data, `meta query` will report the following:

```
. meta query
(data not meta set; use meta set or meta esize to declare as meta data)
```

To clear meta settings, use `meta clear`.

For more details and examples, see [Modifying default meta settings](#) and [Displaying and updating meta settings](#) in [\[META\] meta data](#).

Stored results

`meta update` updates characteristics and contents of system variables described in [Stored results of \[META\] meta set](#) and [Stored results of \[META\] meta esize](#).

Also see

[META] **meta data** — Declare meta-analysis data

[META] **meta esize** — Compute effect sizes and declare meta-analysis data

[META] **meta set** — Declare meta-analysis data using generic effect sizes

[META] **meta** — Introduction to meta

[META] **Glossary**

[META] **Intro** — Introduction to meta-analysis