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
```

**options_continuous**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>esize(esspecnt)</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>random[ (remethod) ]</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>common</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>fixed</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**options_binary**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>esize(estypebin)</code></td>
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<tr>
<td><code>random[ (remethod) ]</code></td>
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<tr>
<td><code>common[ (cefemethod) ]</code></td>
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<tr>
<td><code>fixed[ (cefemethod) ]</code></td>
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<td><code>zerocells(zcspec)</code></td>
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**options_generic**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>random[ (remethod) ]</code></td>
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<tr>
<td><code>common</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>fixed</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>studysize(varname)</code></td>
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</tbody>
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**options**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>studylabel(varname)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>eslabel(string)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>level(#)</strong></td>
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**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 and standard-error variables, and meta-analysis model and estimation method. This option does not appear on the dialog box.

**Remarks and examples**

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