



Statistics in Medicine

By Robert H. Riffenburgh

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This book covers 30% of statistical methods used for 90% of medical studies. It opens with databases from clinical medicine and uses such data throughout to give multiple worked-out illustrations for every method. In contrast to a traditional text, it provides two parts: (I) an introductory text for students in medicine, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, and other health care fields, and (II) a reference manual to support practicing clinicians in reading medical literature or conducting research study. The textbook part starts at ground zero in mathematics and covers only the basic concepts and the most frequently seen methods in biostatistics, following the philosophy that what the student remembers five years after the course is the important issue, not what is forgotten. The reference part is written to allow topic hop-about rather than a required sequence of reading. It is well indexed to find topics and terms. A great effort has been made to make it user friendly and the foreword has been written by VADM Richard Nelson M.D., Surgeon General of the Navy and Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

Key Features

- * Easy-to-follow format includes medical examples, step-by-step methods, and check-yourself exercises
- * Includes a summary of formulas, method algorithms, and check lists in a back section
- * Thorough discussion on required sample size
- * Covers germane topics honed through multiple lecture series to hospital staff and residents
- * Facilitates scanning and review by leading off each paragraph with its topic or gist in italics
- * Covers important topics omitted in most biostatistics texts:
- * Multiple, curvilinear, and logarithmic regression
- * Survival methods
- * Sequential analysis
- * Time series
- * Number Needed to Treat
- * Meta-analysis

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Editorial Review

Review

From Praise for the Book

"The concept of a two-part book (text and reference) is unique. The content is very good."

--DAVID A. LANE, M.D., Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Washington, DC

"An easy-to-use, germane, well-organized book. He has eliminated much of the material that might appear in a more standard textbook of statistics in favor of presenting specifically medical studies to his busy audience. It is organized in a manner that allows thumbing through to obtain specific guidance for specific problems in medical statistics."

--BRIAN NYQUIST, M.D., Chief of Anesthesiology, Bremerton Naval Hospital, Washington

"One common annoyance in the lives of researchers is the attempt to ferret out details of a statistical test from a textbook. This book gives the details a busy researcher needs [in a single section], with assumptions, sufficient detail, and several worked examples."

--BRUCE BOYNTON, M.D., Department of Pediatrics, University of California, San Diego

From the Back Cover

Statistics in Medicine makes medical statistics easy to understand and applicable. The book begins with databases from clinical medicine and uses such data throughout to give multiple worked-out illustrations of every method. In contrast to a traditional text, it is organized into two parts: (I) an introductory, basic-concepts text for students in medicine, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, and other health care fields; and (II) a reference manual to support practicing clinicians in reading medical literature or conducting a research study.

Key Features

- * User-friendly format includes medical examples, step-by-step methods, and check-yourself exercises
- * Back section includes a summary of formulas, method algorithms, and checklists
- * Facilitates scanning and review, rather than a required sequence of reading
- * Covers topics omitted in most biostatistics texts:
 - * Multiple, curvilinear, and logarithmic regression
 - * Survival methods
 - * Sequential analysis
 - * Time series
 - * Number needed to treat
 - * Meta-analysis
 - * Equivalence testing
 - * Thorough discussion of required sample size

About the Author

Robert H. Riffenburgh, Ph.D. provides advice on experimental design, statistical analysis, and scientific integrity on the approximately 140 new studies beginning each year at the Naval Medical Center San Diego. He is former professor and Head, Dept. of Statistics, Univ. of Connecticut, and has been faculty at Va Tech., Univ. Hawaii, Univ. Maryland, Univ. California San Diego, San Diego State Univ., and in Leiden (The Netherlands). He has been president of his own consulting firm and performed and directed operations research for the U.S. Government and NATO. He has consulted periodically on medical statistics throughout his career and full-time for the last eight years. He has received numerous awards and has published more than 125 professional papers.

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