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## DISCLOSURES

- I am the owner of Whole World Health Care and The Oasis.
- I am an equity partner in CIRSx, LLC.
- I provide legal work and testimony as an expert, on behalf of both plaintiffs and defendants, in mold-based illness related litigation

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- A little fun...
- Elementary Statistics
- Gaussian Distributions and Bell-shaped curves
- p-values
- Summary



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## ELEMENTARY STATISTICS

## - What is Statistics

- The practice or science of collecting and analyzing numerical data in large quantities, especially for the purpose of inferring proportions in a whole from those in a representative sample.
- In applying statistics to a scientific, industrial, or social problem, it is conventional to begin with a statistical population or a statistical model to be studied.
- A field of math that looks at data collection and develops ways of tabulation and analyzing the data


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## ELEMENTARY STATISTICS

-How do we use Statistics in our lives?

- Understand concepts like incidence, prevalence, \% improvement
- Evaluate relative risks, odds ratios and every research paper we read
- Develop reference ranges for lab tests, GENIE and more
- "Normal ranges" are developed through statistics
- Design and evaluate research, compare data groups scientifically

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## ELEMENTARY STATISTICS

- Basic Statistics vocabulary
- Population
- A population is an entire group from which you want to draw conclusions
- Sample
- A sample is a specific group you will evaluate, from the population in which you are interested, and will draw conclusions from the sample


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## ELEMENTARY STATISTICS

- Basic Statistics vocabulary (cont'd)
- Parameter
- A numerical measure that describes a characteristic of a population
- Statistic (singular, an individual statistic)
- A numerical measure that describes a characteristic of a sample
- Variable
- A characteristic of an item that will be analyzed using statistics
htto://wwwimearsonhiahered.com


## ELEMENTARY STATISTICS

- What are the types of Statistics (plural, the field of Statistics)?
- Descriptive Statistics
- These stats describe properties of populations and samples
- Includes the Mean (average), variance (standard deviation) and more
- Inferential Statistics
- These stats are used to test hypotheses and draw conclusions
- Student T-tests, Chi-square analyses and more
- Often generate a p-value


## GAUSSIAN DISTRIBUTIONS AND BELL-SHAPED CURVES

-The Gaussian Distribution is also called the Normal Distribution

- When such a distribution is plotted on graph paper, it creates the Bell-shaped curve
- A Bell-shaped curve is bell-shaped
-The X-axis (horizontal) is something being measured, such as height, weight or MMP-9 levels - the variable
- The y-axis (vertical) is usually the frequency of the finding



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## GAUSSIAN DISTRIBUTIONS AND BELL-SHAPED CURVES

- The width of the curve gets larger as more possible values are available
- For instance, if comparing baby heights to adult heights, the baby height curve is less wide because there are fewer height values available to babies than to adults
- The curve will always be centered around the Mean, or average value
- The Mean is a measure of central tendency


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## GAUSSIAN DISTRIBUTIONS AND BELL-SHAPED CURVES

- The more possible values, the more the data can vary and the larger of what is called "variance"
- Standard Deviation is the measure of variance of a data set
- The more data values possible, the greater the standard deviation, the wider the curve



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## GAUSSIAN DISTRIBUTIONS AND BELL-SHAPED CURVES

- Mean = 140
- $S D=2.5$
- $2 \times 2.5=5$
- $140-5=135$
- $140+5=145$
- The reference range is 135-145

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## GAUSSIAN DISTRIBUTIONS AND BELL-SHAPED CURVES

- $38.2 \%$ of all data values are between The Mean + and the Mean $-0.5 \times$ SD
- $68.2 \%$ of all data values are between The Mean + and the Mean - 1x SD
- $86.6 \%$ of all data values are between The Mean + and the Mean - $1.5 \times$ SD
- $95.4 \%$ of all data values are between The Mean + and the Mean $-2 \times$ SD
- All that is left are the tails making up $2.3 \%$ on the high end and $2.3 \%$ on the low end
- The tails contain all the "abnormal values"


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## GAUSSIAN DISTRIBUTIONS AND BELL-SHAPED CURVES

- Z-scores are easy to calculate
- The Z-score is the distance of the value from the Mean (X-Mean)/SD
- If the Mean of MSH = 58 (reference range $35-81$ ), the SD $=11.5$ and the value ( X ) is 37 , the distance of the value from the mean is $37-58=-21$. Dividing the distance ( -21 ) by the SD (11.5) gives a Z-score $=-21 / 11.5=-1$.



## GAUSSIAN DISTRIBUTIONS AND BELL-SHAPED CURVES

- Percentiles are easily calculated from Zscores and a table or online Z-score calculator
- One can calculate the actual percentile, the percentage of values that are greater or the percentage of values that are less. This graph shows the $90^{\text {th }}$ percentile which is 1.645 SD above the Mean (Z-score = 1.645)



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## p-VALUES

- The Mean, Standard Deviation and Z-score are all examples of Descriptive Statistics
- Inferential Statistics allow us to compare different data sets with each other
- The Null Hypothesis, or $\mathrm{H}_{0}$, states that there is no difference between two data sets
- Inferential Statistics allows us to compare 2 data sets, such a "before" data and data obtained "after "an intervention
- The intervention is our variable
- If the data in the two sets are statistically significantly different, we reject the $\mathrm{H}_{0}$
- if Alpha is $<0.05$, the likelihood of differing between data sets being by chance $<5 \%$
- We most often use a Student T-test or Chi-squared test to calculate p-values
- Example 1 - Data
- You randomly drew C4a levels on 7 CIRS cases and 7 healthy controls. All the labs were sent to National Jewish Center for evaluation. What do statistics tell you?
- The data is numeric, continuous and should follow a Bell-shaped curve, so it is parametric - we will use the Student T-test, which is a parametric test
- Our 2 populations are all CIRS cases everywhere and all healthy controls everywhere
- Our samples are a small part of these populations and may not be representative


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p-VALUES

- Example 1 - Set up the Hypothesis test
- 1) What is the null hypothesis $\left(H_{0}\right)$ ? What is the alternate hypothesis $\left(H_{1}\right)$ ?
- $\mathrm{H}_{0}$ - There is no association between elevated C4a values and CIRS
- They are independent of each other
- $\mathrm{H}_{1}$ - There is an association between elevated C4a values and CIRS
- C4a values are dependent on having CIRS or not
- 2) What is the level of significance?
- Alpha is .05 , rejection of $\mathrm{H}_{0}$ if $p<.05$
- Example 1 - Set up the Hypothesis test (cont'd)
-3) Find the critical value
- Not necessary if using Excel
- 4) Calculate the test statistic
- Use Excel, this will give you the p-value
-5) Draw conclusions
- If $p>=.05$, accept the $\mathrm{H}_{0}$ that there is no relationship between having CIRS and elevated C4a values
- If $p<0.05$, reject the $H_{0}$. This does not prove $H_{1}$ is correct but does prove $H_{0}$ is incorrec $\dagger$


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p-VALUES

- Example 1 - Data entry - Average or Mean
- To calculate the Average, or Mean, choose an appropriate cell, type "=sum(", enter the cell of the $1^{\text {st }}$ number in the group to be summed, then ":", then the last number to be summed, then ")/" then the number of data points. Then hit RETURN.
- Example - in the cell which has the Average of 1918.43, I typed =sum(B16:B22)/7
- In the cell which has the Average of 5491.86, I typed =sum(C16:C22)/7
- There are other ways to do this, for me, this is the easiest


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p-VALUES

- Example 1 - Data entry - Standard Deviation or SD
- To calculate the Standard Deviation, choose an appropriate cell, type "=STDEV(", enter the cell of the $1^{\text {st }}$ number in the group to be evaluate, then ":", then the last number to be evaluated, then "), the hit RETURN
- Example - in the cell which has the SD of 516.41, I typed $=\operatorname{STDEV}(\mathrm{B} 16: \mathrm{B} 22)$
- In the cell which has the SD of 3653.28, I typed =STDEV(C16:C22)


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## p-VALUES

- Example 1 - Data entry - Student T-test
- To calculate the Student T-test, choose an appropriate cell, you will need to enter 4 entries in the right order
- $1^{\text {st }}$, type " $=$ T.test((", enter the cell of the $1^{\text {st }}$ number in the $1^{\text {st }}$ group to be evaluated, then ":", then the last number to be evaluated, then ")," - this is the first entry
- 2nd, type "=(", enter the cell of the $1^{\text {st }}$ number in the $2^{\text {nd }}$ group to be evaluated, then ".:", then the last number to be evaluated, then ")," - this is the second entry
- Example - in the cell which has the p-value of 0.04256878, I typed
=T.test((B16:B22),(C16:C22), -with x2 more arguments to enter


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## p-VALUES

- Example 1 - Data entry - Student T-test cont'd)
- The $3^{\text {rd }}$ entry refers to how many tails of the Bell-shaped curve you are looking at. If you expect one set to be high or low, choose "1". If you are open minded and do not know if one set will be either high or low, choose " 2 "
- The $4^{\text {th }}$ and final entry refers to the data in the 2 sets. If the data is exactly paired, type 1. If not paired but the variance (or SD) are the same, type 2. If not paired and differing variances, type 3, then finish with ")"
- Example - in the cell which has the p-value of 0.04256878, I typed =T.test((B16:B22),(C16:C22),2,1)

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p-VALUES

- Example 2 - The data
- You have 600 CIRS patients who had their TGF-beta 1 values drawn. Because of insurance, some were drawn at LabCorp, some at Quest. These 2 laboratories have different reference ranges so you cannot take an average (Mean) or SD of all 600 together. That would be like mixing apples and oranges.
- You note that, of the 364 LabCorp samples, 270 are elevated and 94 are either normal or low.
- You also determine that, of the 236 Quest samples, 190 are elevated and 46 are either normal or low.


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## p-VALUES

- Example 2 - The data
- In total, there are 460 abnormally elevated levels and 140 which are not elevated
- This is only looking at the tail at the high end, or single tail
- What percentage would you predict of abnormally high TGF-beta 1 levels in a healthy population?
- 2.5\% based on the Gaussian distribution for reference ranges we discussed earlier, or 15 in this example $(600 \times 2.5 \%=15)$
- You would also expect $97.5 \%$, or 585 , to be in the normal/low group
- Example 2 - Set up the Hypothesis test
- 1) What is the null hypothesis $\left(H_{0}\right)$ ? What is the alternate hypothesis $\left(H_{1}\right)$ ?
- $\mathrm{H}_{0}$ - There is no association between elevated TGF-betal values and CIRS
- They are independent of each other
- $\mathrm{H}_{1}$ - There is an association between elevated TGF-betal values and CIRS
- TGF-beta 1 values are dependent on having CIRS or not
- 2) What is the level of significance?
- Alpha is .05, rejection of $H_{0}$ if $p<.05$


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p-VALUES

- Example 2 - Set up the Hypothesis test
- 3) Find the critical value
- Not necessary if using an online Chi-square calculator
- 4) Calculate the test statistic
- Use the online calculator, this will give you the p-value
- 5) Draw conclusions
- If $p>=.05$, accept the $\mathrm{H}_{0}$ that there is no relationship between having CIRS and elevated TGF-beta 1 values
- If $\mathrm{p}<0.5$, reject the $\mathrm{H}_{0}$. This does not prove $\mathrm{H}_{1}$ is correct but does prove $\mathrm{H}_{0}$ is incorrect

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p-VALUES

- Example 2 - Calculating the p-value or 4) Calculate the test statistic
- You cannot use the Student T-test because the data is not parametric (it is ordinal Elevated or Normal/low)
- You can use a Chi-Square $2 \times 2$ contingency table which looks at 4 numbers
- False positive, false negative, true positive and true negative - OR -
- Expected normal, expected abnormal, observed normal, observed abnormal
- Our expected abnormal or elevated is 15 , the remainder of normal/low is 585
- Our observed abnormal is 460, our observed in the normal or low range is 140
- We can plug these 4 numbers into an online Chi-square calculator
- I use the statistics calculator at: www.socscistatistics.com


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|  |  |  |  | p-VALUES |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Group and Category Names |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Expected | Observed |  |  |  |
| Normal/low |  |  |  |  |  |
| Elevated |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
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p-values

- The Chi-square statistic calculated was 690.0327
- The p-value was <. 00001 which is statistically significant when Alpha is set at . 05
- We reject the null hypothesis which said the CIRS patients are no more likely than the normal population to have elevated TGF-beta 1 levels
- Another way to look at the $p$-value is that for $p<.00001$, if we repeated the data collection 100,000 more times, we would likely have the same result (rejecting $\mathrm{H}_{0}$ ) 99,999 times and a different result (accepting $\mathrm{H}_{0}$ ) just 1 time.
- The difference between the 2 data groups is unlikely to be from chance


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 October 14, 2022Summary

- Statistics are important, a little confusing, but necessary to design, perform or understand research
- We all read research
-We all should be collecting data and doing research
-We all need to understand Statistics a little better! I hope this helped!


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