

Research Methods 2

Week 11: Exercise Sheet 1

Question 1.

In a trial comparing antenatal steroids and placebo for the prevention of neonatal respiratory distress syndrome (RDS), 66 mothers developed pre-eclampsia. Of these 33 received antenatal steroids and 7 of the babies in this group developed RDS. The other 33 mother received placebo and 9 of their babies had RDS.

Construct the table of observed values from these data. Perform and interpret a test of the hypothesis that the population proportion of babies developing RDS is the same in the two groups. Also compute the table which gives the percentage of patients in each group (steroids or placebo) that fall into each category (RDS or no RDS).

Question 2.

Repeat question 1 but with values in the observed table that are increased by a factor of 100. Comment.

End of Exercise Sheet 1