

# Meeting the needs of medical research with statistical methods

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*Open Access Medical Statistics* is a brand new journal. The aim is to meet the needs of medical research with modern statistical methods.

Medicine is a science dealing with health issues in a broad area, where chances or random events play a significant role. Statistics is a science that quantifies random events and helps researchers make valid conclusions and decisions; it involves data collection, data organization, and summarization, making statistical valid inferences and predictions. Modern medicine has been developed over hundreds of years, with new research areas coming up frequently; likewise for statistical science. Medical research needs statistical methods to test hypothesis, design clinical trials, make inferences and predictions, and develop future directions. Statistical research needs medical backgrounds and scenarios to motivate new methodologies and solutions. We hope our journal will be a good merge of these two broad areas, and bring mutual benefits to both.

We plan to accept different kinds of articles: Original Research, Reviews, Short Communications, Commentaries, and Letters to the Editor. Original Research articles could be medical research using modern statistical methods, or it could be the development of new statistical methods with application to some medical area. We also encourage medical practice papers that apply existing methods to new areas, where new findings or new insights are obtained. The Reviews section accepts review articles that provide up-to-date summary on the latest development on a specific research topic. It could be one specific clinical or medical research, using different statistical methods or approaches, or it could be a specific statistical method that has been applied to different medical areas. A Short Communication should be a short report of findings for one specific area. In addition to the above mentioned sections, we also accept book reviews for new books published in the area.

*Open Access Medical Statistics* will endeavor to provide timely feedback to authors, with a turnaround time of 2–3 weeks. We will strive to provide timely and constructive comments to all submissions. We hope our journal will be a favorite outlet of your research and that it will bridge communication between statistician and clinical/medical researchers. Finally, we hope that our journal will attract a broad range of readers, such as biostatisticians, medical and health science researchers, epidemiologists, and clinicians.

We thank our authors, our reviewers, the members of our editorial board, and Dove Medical Press for their great help to bring out this inaugural issue.

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