**Assessment of the effectiveness of terbinafine and itraconazole in eliminating toenail dermatophyte onychomycosis; A longitudinal approach.**

Flint Chenjera1

Michelle Jombe1

Trust Pondo1

Robson Dembah1

1 Statistics, University of Zimbabwe

# Introduction

* Provide a brief introduction about the situation/project you are tackling.

# Objectives and aims

* What is the general objective or general statement of the problem?
* Why are you doing this? What do you want to answer? Further clarify the general objective by specifying any specific aims to be addressed.

# Methodology

* Description of the data
* Provide a brief description of the data at hand. From what type of experiment are the data coming from etc.
* Exploratory analysis

What exploratory techniques do you plan to use? Graphs? Tabular summaries? What information do these convey? If you propose to show a particular type of plot, motivate why you do that.

What type of information do you expect to get from that plot?

Same for tables and any other summaries you may consider.

* **Model fitting**

Which model are you going to use and why? If possible provide a statistical model formulation, carefully defining all terms you use. In general, keep equations to a minimum. How are you going to analyze the data? What steps do you plan to take and why? Always motivate your choice of action. In this section, you essentially describe all what you plan to do. For example, if you plan to test for statistical significance of effects using the likelihood ratio test, this should be mentioned here. The researchers should not encounter results or any new terminology that cannot be traced back to your methodology section. Simply put, do not report on anything in your results section that you did not mention in the methodology section.

# Results

What are the results of your analysis? It is always a good idea to start with exploratory analysis results — summary of the data, graphical representations etc. Considerations include relationships between covariates and relationships between covariates and the outcome. Typically, these have implications on what you do/or need to do in the formal analysis. Then report the actual model analysis. Are there any links with what you saw in the exploratory analysis? Summarize the findings from your final model. What are the answers to the questions that you stated had to be answered?

# Discussion

Briefly remind the researchers what you did- what did you want address, how did you do it and what were your key findings. What are the implications of your findings? Discuss your results in more detail, for example including any assumptions that you made. Advantages and disadvantages of the approach you used?