

# Exercise 5

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We have seen some statistical tools useful to compare groups in case of discrete data. In particular, the first two questions refer to the use of the chi-square and the Fisher exact tests.

1. Use a chi-square test in order to test whether the presence of chronic bronchitis and the current smoking status are independent.
2. Use a Fisher test to verify independence between sex and the presence of any liver disease.

In the previous exercises, we have transformed the variable `hdl` in order to fulfill the normality assumption necessary to perform the t-test. Now, we know some non-parametric tests which allow us to test out hypothesis without performing any transformation.

3. Perform a sign test both on `hdl` and on `logHdl` to test the hypothesis that the median of the cholesterol level is 1.30. Is the median significantly different from 1.30? Do you obtain the same results using `hdl` and `logHdl`? (remember to use the logarithm of 1.30 in the latter case).
4. Use a Mann-Whitney test to test the null hypothesis  $H_0 : \text{male weight} = \text{female weight}$ .

Now let us go back to the NHANES data from your R Data Project. For these new questions, it can be useful to draw a mosaic plot. In R, this can be done through the function `mosaicplot()`. As usual, for further information, it is possible to consult the related help page: `> ?mosaicplot`.

5. Income and health.
  - a) It has been shown that there is a “social gradient” in health, such that the richer you are, the more likely you are to have better health. Plot general self-rated health against relative income so that you can get an impression whether this is confirmed by our data.
  - b) Test the relation for statistical significance using an appropriate test.
6. Unemployment and depression
  - a) Recode the variable `jobstat` into a new dichotomous variable “Unemployment yes/no”.
  - b) Calculate a depression score by taking the mean across all items of the depression scale (“PHQ-9”). If the values for more than 3 items are missing, assign the person a missing value. The resulting score may be treated as a metric variable.
  - c) Investigate the hypothesis that unemployed people are more depressed than employed people. Check also whether the assumptions that your method of choice underlies are met.