

Task Sheet

1. This trial will evaluate the effectiveness of the presented medication. Participants would be split into three groups – one following a diet, one doing specified exercises and one using prescribed medication. Since the medication are limited a maximum of 1000 participants using drugs would be allowed. Also we want to have twice as many participants assigned to the diet treatment compared with the other two. One of the major prognostic factors which might affect the effectiveness of the medication is the age of the participants, so they should be stratified in 4 groups: 18-25, 26-35, 35-50 and 50+. Furthermore for the allocation process the method of blocked randomisation should be used with block size of 123.
2. This trial will evaluate two newly presented treatments of asthma – a revolutionary pill and an exposure to light amounts of radiation. They are going to be tested against the standard usage of inhalers. Because of limited access to the linear accelerator at the Southampton General Hospital no more than 250 people could be put under this treatment group. The pills provided by the pharmaceuticals company would be enough for no more than 500 treatments. If those two treatments are full all incoming patients should be assigned to the inhalers group. It is desirable to have twice as many participants given the pills than are treated with radiation, and twice as many as that treated with standard inhalers. The two main prognostic factor which might affect the results of the study are the gender and whether their parents have asthma too, so the allocation method should stratify them based on this factors. The methods used for allocation should be simple randomisation (simple coin tossing).
3. This trial will assess the effects of different nutrients used predominantly in the training community – OKLAS and VBO, on personal BMI compared with standard diet. The OKLAS nutrients are limited to up to 200 participants. It is desirable to have two times less people assigned to OKLAS group compared with any of the other two groups. The method that should be used for allocation is the newly implemented minimisation technique. The prognostic factors on which it should be applied are gender and age, where the age groups are 18-30, 30-50 and 50+.