Statistical Inference Project: An Analysis of the Effects of Vitamin C Dosing and Supplement Type on Tooth Growth in Guinea Pigs

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Overview

In this project we will analyze the impact of vitamin C dosage (0.5, 1, and 2 mg/day) and delivery method (orange juice and ascorbic acid) on the length of odontoblasts (which are the cells responsible for tooth growth) in 60 guinea pigs.

Here is a summary of our data.

summary(ToothGrowth)

```
dose
         len
                    supp
         : 4.20
                    OJ:30
##
    Min.
                            Min.
                                    :0.500
##
   1st Qu.:13.07
                    VC:30
                             1st Qu.:0.500
  Median :19.25
                            Median :1.000
  Mean
           :18.81
                             Mean
                                    :1.167
                             3rd Qu.:2.000
    3rd Qu.:25.27
    Max.
           :33.90
                             Max.
                                    :2.000
```

There are three variables: len, supp, and dose with 60 total observations.

Exploratory Analysis

First we will explore the mean odontoblast lengths versus dosage and supplement type.

```
ToothGrowth %>% group_by(dose) %>% summarize(avg=mean(len))
```

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 2
## dose avg
## <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 0.5 10.6
## 2 1 19.7
## 3 2 26.1
```

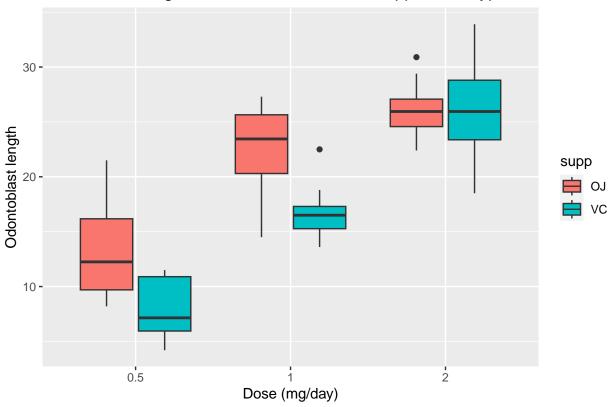
```
ToothGrowth %>% group_by(dose,supp) %>% summarize(avg=mean(len))
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
## # Groups: dose [3]
```

```
##
      dose supp
                     avg
##
     <dbl> <fct> <dbl>
       0.5 OJ
                   13.2
##
##
       0.5 VC
                    7.98
##
            OJ
                   22.7
##
            VC
                   16.8
       1
       2
            OJ
                   26.1
            VC
                   26.1
## 6
       2
```

```
ToothGrowth$dose <- as.factor(ToothGrowth$dose)
g <- ggplot(data=ToothGrowth,aes(dose,len)) + geom_boxplot(aes(fill=supp)) + labs(x="Dose (mg/day)", y= print(g)
```

Odontoblast length vs Vitamin C Dose and Supplement Type



The summaries and means show us that odon toblast length increases as the Vitamin C dose increases. It also shows that Orange Juice delivery results in higher growth than Ascorbic Acid at $0.5~\mathrm{mg/day}$ and $1.0~\mathrm{mg/day}$ of Vitamin C.

Hypotheses

We will test two main hypotheses

- Does vitamin C dose impact tooth growth?
- Does delivery method impact tooth growth?

Analyses

0.5 vs 1.0 mg/day of Vitamin C

We ran an unpaired t-test comparing 0.5 and 1.0 mg/day. The average growth for 0.5 mg/day is 10.6 and the average growth for 1.0 mg/day is 19.7. The confidence interval of the difference does not contain 0 and the p value is much less than 0.05. This would indicate that 1.0 mg/day is more effective than 0.5 mg/day at driving odontoblast growth.

The details are in the appendix.

1.0 vs 2.0 mg/day of Vitamin C

We ran an unpaired t-test comparing 1.0 and 2.0 mg/day. The average growth for 1.0 mg/day is 19.7 and the average growth for 2.0 mg/day is 26.1. The confidence interval of the difference does not contain 0 and the p value is much less than 0.05. This would indicate that 2.0 mg/day is more effective than 1.0 mg/day at driving odontoblast growth.

The details are in the appendix.

Orange Juice vs Ascorbic Acid at 0.5 mg/day

We ran an unpaired t-test comparing orange juice and ascorbic acid at a dosage of 0.5 mg/day. The average growth for orange juice is 13.2 and the average growth for ascorbic acid is 8.0. The confidence interval of the difference does not contain 0 and the p value is much less than 0.05. This would indicate that orange juice is more effective than ascorbic acid at driving odontoblast growth at 0.5 mg/day.

The details are in the appendix.

Orange Juice vs Ascorbic Acid at 1.0 mg/day

We ran an unpaired t-test comparing orange juice and ascorbic acid at a dosage of 1.0 mg/day. The average growth for orange juice is 22.7 and the average growth for ascorbic acid is 16.8. The confidence interval of the difference does not contain 0 and the p value is much less than 0.05. This would indicate that orange juice is more effective than ascorbic acid at driving odontoblast growth at 1.0 mg/day.

The details are in the appendix.

Orange Juice vs Ascorbic Acid at 2.0 mg/day

We ran an unpaired t-test comparing orange juice and ascorbic acid at a dosage of 2.0 mg/day. The average growth for orange juice is 26.1 and the average growth for ascorbic acid is 26.1. The confidence interval of the difference does contain 0 and the p value is 0.96. This would indicate that there is no observable difference between orange juice and ascorbic acidd at driving odontoblast growth at 2.0 mg/day.

The details are in the appendix.

Appendix

0.5 vs 1.0 mg/day of Vitamin C

```
t.test(len ~ dose,paired=FALSE,var.equal=FALSE,data=ToothGrowth[ToothGrowth$dose!=2,])
##
##
   Welch Two Sample t-test
## data: len by dose
## t = -6.4766, df = 37.986, p-value = 1.268e-07
## alternative hypothesis: true difference in means between group 0.5 and group 1 is not equal to 0
## 95 percent confidence interval:
## -11.983781 -6.276219
## sample estimates:
## mean in group 0.5
                      mean in group 1
##
              10.605
                                19.735
1.0 vs 2.0 mg/day of Vitamin C
t.test(len ~ dose,paired=FALSE,var.equal=FALSE,data=ToothGrowth[ToothGrowth$dose!=0.5,])
##
## Welch Two Sample t-test
##
## data: len by dose
## t = -4.9005, df = 37.101, p-value = 1.906e-05
## alternative hypothesis: true difference in means between group 1 and group 2 is not equal to 0
## 95 percent confidence interval:
## -8.996481 -3.733519
## sample estimates:
## mean in group 1 mean in group 2
##
            19.735
                            26.100
Orange Juice vs Ascorbic Acid at 0.5 mg/day
t.test(len ~ supp,paired=FALSE,var.equal=FALSE,data=ToothGrowth[ToothGrowth$dose==0.5,])
##
## Welch Two Sample t-test
##
## data: len by supp
## t = 3.1697, df = 14.969, p-value = 0.006359
## alternative hypothesis: true difference in means between group OJ and group VC is not equal to O
## 95 percent confidence interval:
## 1.719057 8.780943
## sample estimates:
## mean in group OJ mean in group VC
              13.23
                                7.98
##
```

Orange Juice vs Ascorbic Acid at 1.0 mg/day

```
##
## Welch Two Sample t-test
##
## data: len by supp
## t = 4.0328, df = 15.358, p-value = 0.001038
## alternative hypothesis: true difference in means between group OJ and group VC is not equal to 0
## 95 percent confidence interval:
## 2.802148 9.057852
## sample estimates:
## mean in group OJ mean in group VC
## 22.70 16.77
```

Orange Juice vs Ascorbic Acid at 2.0 mg/day

```
t.test(len ~ supp,paired=FALSE,var.equal=FALSE,data=ToothGrowth[ToothGrowth$dose==2.0,])

##

## Welch Two Sample t-test

##

## data: len by supp

## t = -0.046136, df = 14.04, p-value = 0.9639

## alternative hypothesis: true difference in means between group OJ and group VC is not equal to 0

## 95 percent confidence interval:

## -3.79807 3.63807

## sample estimates:

## mean in group OJ mean in group VC

## 26.06 26.14
```