

**STEP 1:  
DESCRIBE  
EXPERIMENT**

***Three multi-national RCTs assessing  
impact of corticosteroids on mortality  
among septic shock patients***

Pooled sample of  $n = 1,300$  adults in septic shock

**STEP 2:  
SPECIFY  
STATISTICAL MODEL**

**STEP 3:  
DEFINE STATISTICAL  
QUERY**

**STEP 4:  
CONSTRUCT  
ESTIMATOR**

**STEP 5:  
OBTAIN  
INFERENCE**

**STEP 6:  
MAKE SUBSTANTIVE  
CONCLUSION**

**$W$**   
pre-treatment covariates  
(e.g. biomarkers)

**$A$**   
steroid treatment (  $A = 1$  )  
or no steroids (  $A = 0$  )

**$Y$**   
1-month mortality

