Clinical Biostatistics: An Introduction to Evidence-based Medicine

Graham Dunn, Brian S. Everitt
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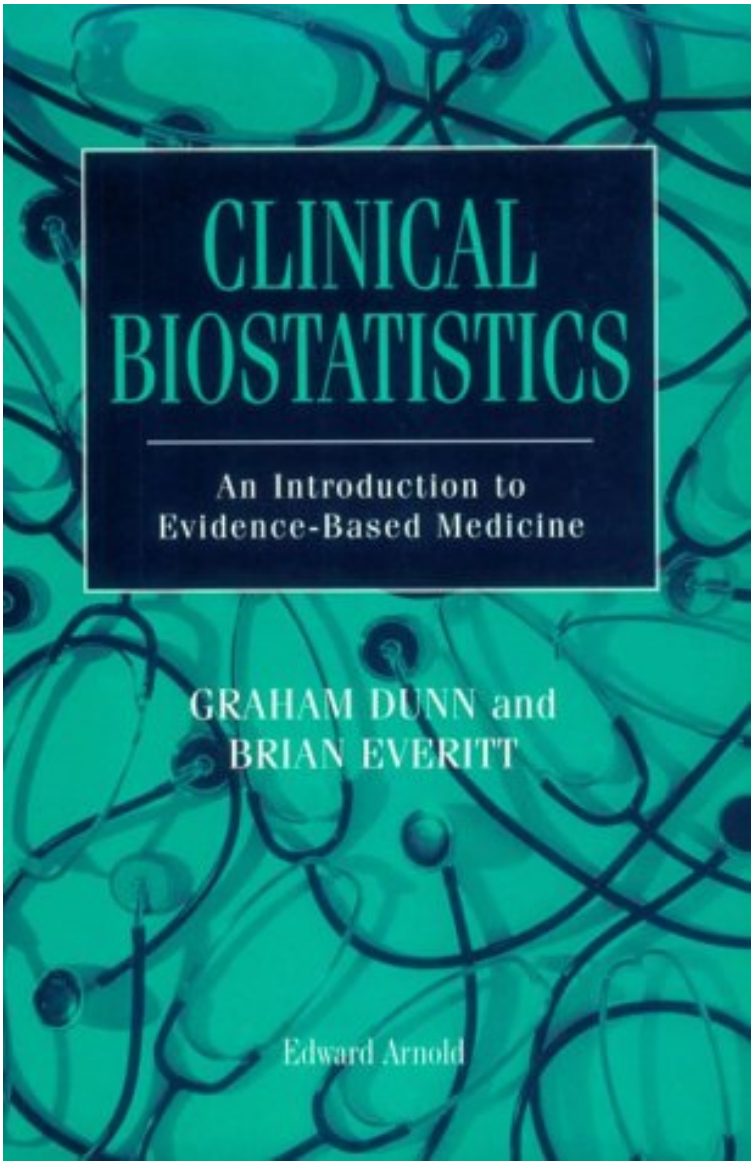

#6818973 in Books Hodder Education Publishers 1995-03-17Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x .40 x 6.10l, #File Name: 0340595310160 pages | File size: 45.Mb

Graham Dunn, Brian S. Everitt : Clinical Biostatistics: An Introduction to Evidence-based Medicine before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Clinical Biostatistics: An Introduction to Evidence-based Medicine:

38 of 38 people found the following review helpful. nice introductory bookBy Michael R. ChernickIn the medical device and pharmaceutical industries as well as in academic medical research results of well-controlled clinical trials and other valid statistical and epidemiologic studies fall under the category of evidence-based medicine. I think this is

to contrast it with medical practice that is based on anecdotal and other practical experience which has not been subjected to scientific hypothesis testing.Dunn and Everitt are excellent writers who have written a number of fine books on statistical methods particularly very applied books with applications using common statistical software. This book does a good job of covering the basic issues in medical trials and the key statistical methods. It does not appear to cover any of the observational studies and other epidemiological work that could be part of such a book. But what it does cover it covers very well.

This text may be read with profit by 'students' at any stage of their clinical careers. The authors have made no assumptions about any prior expertise in either statistics or medicine. The technical discussions of all the clinical problems have been kept at a level that can be understood by the lay person, and it is hoped that even non-clinicians (such as patients or others involved in the health service) will find the contents of interest. As an increasing number of medical schools transfer to a problem-based curriculum, in which clinical trials and basic science are learnt in an integrated manner, there is clearly a need for a biostatistics text which is also motivated by clinical problems. Clinical Biostatistics has been written in response to this need. In the traditional medical curriculum great stress has been placed on the acquisition of knowledge, and to some extent skills, with little attention being paid to attitudes. This text, however, concentrates on influencing students' attitudes towards the use of evidence and the appropriate and valid use of statistical inference in clinical medicine. Thus, by using this book students will acquire skills that are useful both for the analysis of their own data (in projects for example) and also for the clinical appraisal of the work of others. In contrast, little attention is paid to the mere learning of statistical formulae.

From the PublisherProvides reasons why a basic knowledge of statistics is vital to all those intending to become doctors. Each chapter deals with a different clinical problem and describes the relevant statistical methods. The material is illustrated with contemporary examples including the effects of passive smoking, alcohol consumption by pregnant women, risk factor for stroke in middle-aged men, Alzheimer's disease and more.About the AuthorGraham Dunn, Dept. of Biostatistics and Computing, Institute of Psychiatry, London. Brian Everitt, Dept. of Biostatistics and Computing, Institute of Psychiatry, London.