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The sample size for a clinical trial: a Bayesian-decision theoretic approach.

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Abstract

Using decision theory, what is an appropriate sample size for a clinical trial, with a binary endpoint? We present a program, suitable for actual planning, which, with some extensions, implements Canner's solution to this question. Examples with a discussion are given. Implications of a Bayesian approach are discussed. Bayesian and Neyman--Pearson approaches are compared.

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