SPSS for Starters



SPSS

Extra Materials

2 Springer

By Ton J. Cleophas, Aeilko H. Zwinderman



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This small book addresses different kinds of datafiles, as commonly encountered in clinical research, and their data-analysis on SPSS Software. Some 15 years ago serious statistical analyses were conducted by specialist statisticians using maframe computers. Nowadays, there is ready access to statistical computing using personal computers or laptops, and this practice has changed boundaries between basic statistical methods that can be conveniently carried out on a pocket calculator and more advanced statistical methods that can only be executed on a computer. Clinical researchers currently perform basic statistics without professional help from a statistician, including t-tests and chi-square tests. With help of user-friendly software the step from such basic tests to more complex tests has become smaller, and more easy to take. It is our experience as masters' and doctorate class teachers of the European College of Pharmaceutical Medicine (EC Socrates Project Lyon France) that s- dents are eager to master adequate command of statistical software for that purpose. However, doing so, albeit easy, still takes 20-50 steps from logging in to the final result, and all of these steps have to be learned in order for the procedures to be successful.

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

This small book contains all statistical tests that are relevant for starters on SPSS. Each test is explained using a data example from clinical practice, including every step in SPSS and the main tables of results with an accompanying text with interpretations of the results and hints convenient for data reporting, i.e., scientific clinical articles and poster presentations.. In order to facilitate the use of this cookbook the data files of the examples are made available by the publisher on the Internet. For investigators who wish to perform their own data analyses from the very start the book can be used as a step-by-step guideline. They can enter their separate data or enter their entire data file, e.g., from Excel, simply by opening an Excel file in SPSS. SPSS statistical software is a user-friendly statistical software with many help and tutor pages. However, for the novices on SPSS an even more basic approach is welcome. The book is meant for this very purpose, and can be used without the help of a teacher. The authors are well-aware that this property will not refrain students from mastering the SPSS software systematic, and that, instead, it will even be a help to that aim. Yet, we recommend that it be used together with the textbook "Statistics Applied to Clinical Trials" by Cleophas et al, 4th Edition, 2009, Springer Dordrecht.

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