

CRITICAL APPRAISAL 3 (MATH38071)

Read through the attached clinical trial report from the BMJ

Gerald Dubowitz Effect of Temazepam on Oxygen Saturation and Sleep quality at High Altitude:

Randomised Placebo Controlled Crossover Trial BMJ Vol 316 p587

[<http://www.bmj.com/content/316/7131/587>]

Answers for the following questions from the paper.

1. What is the objective of the study?
2. What are the interventions/treatments being compared in this trial report?
3. The study is described as being a randomised placebo controlled cross-over trial.
 - a. What are the advantages of the trial being a cross-over design as compared to a parallel group design?
 - b. What disadvantages might there be with a cross-over design as compared to a parallel group design?
4. Why is it important to use randomisation in a cross-over trial?
5. What method was used to allocate interventions to patients?
6. What methods of concealment are used in this study?
7. How was sample size determined?
8. What methods of statistical analyses were used?
9. Are the outcome measures appropriately analyzed?
10. What conclusions does the researcher make regarding the intervention?
11. Do you think the researcher has satisfactorily answered the question?