FACILITATOR/MENTOR GUIDE



Creating an Analysis Plan

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Introduction

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Given information about a noncommunicable (NCD) health problem and a request for health-related information, participants will be able to create an analysis plan that includes the following:

- Research question(s) and/or hypotheses,
- Dataset(s) to be used,
- Inclusion/exclusion criteria,
- Variables to be used in the main analysis,
- Statistical methods and software to be used, and,
- Table shells to prepare for:
 - o Univariable analysis,
 - o Bivariable analysis,
 - o Calculating measures of association, and,
 - o Assessing for confounding and effect measure modification.

ESTIMATED COMPLETION TIME

The workbook should take between 6 and 7 hours to complete.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The workbook is designed for FETP fellows who specialize in NCDs; however, participants can also complete the module if they are working in the infectious diseases area.

PRE-WORK AND PREREQUISITES

Before participating in this training module, participants must complete training in:

- Basic epidemiology and surveillance
- Basic data analysis concepts

OPTIONS FOR FACILITATING THIS TRAINING

There are two options for facilitating this training:

1. <u>Individual mentor-directed</u>: A mentor helps the participant complete the training. The mentor's main responsibility will be to review the mentee's work and provide feedback.

A mentor will meet with the participant a minimum of two times. At the first meeting the mentor should orient the participant to the training, provide examples and direction indicated, answer questions, and set

future modes of contact and meeting time(s). Very small groups (less than 5 individuals) may choose to work on the training together and find individual or collective mentor(s).

- <u>Classroom</u>: There are two options for classroom training. For option a), participants read the training material **prior** to attending class and then review what they read in class. For option b), participants read the training material <u>during</u> class.
 - a. **Participants read training material <u>prior</u> to attending class**. At the start of each module section the facilitator reviews key points. The facilitator may prepare PowerPoint slides for a brief presentation of key points, lead an informal discussion about the reading, or ask participants to answer questions individually or in small groups about what they read. (Appendix B contains sample questions.) After each review participants will complete practice exercises and skill assessments as directed.
 - b. **Participants read training material during class**¹: The facilitator directs students to read the training material and complete the exercises as indicated in the workbook. The facilitator leads group discussions to review what participants have read and reviews participants' answers to the exercises and skill assessments.

MATERIALS

For the Facilitator or Mentor:

- Facilitator/Mentor Guide
- Flip chart and markers

For the Participant:

- Participant Workbook
- Activity Workbook
- Supporting materials for Practice Exercises (e.g., questionnaires)
- Background information for Skill Assessment

¹ See Appendix A for sample class agenda for the three data analysis modules.

CONFIGURATION OF THE TRAINING ROOM

If this training will be implemented in a facilitator-led setting, please note the following recommendations:

- 1. Use a room large enough to host breakout groups of 6–8 participants.
- 2. Each breakout group should have one rectangular or round table for completing small group work.
- 3. An ideal training room will have enough space between tables to have flip charts for each group and enough space between tables so that groups will not be too distracted by each other.

ICON GLOSSARY

The following icons are used in this guide:

Image Type	Image Meaning
Group Icon	Group discussion that you will lead, either to review key points or answers to an activity
Flip Chart Icon	Write responses during facilitator-led discussions or debriefs
Activity Icon	Activity, exercise, assessment or case study that participants complete
Prepare Icon	Activity in the module for which you need to prepare (e.g., making handouts of a report, identifying a local example)
Reading Icon	Participants read a section in the participant workbook

PREPARATION

There are several facilitator/mentor-led discussions and activities throughout this module. Be sure to review this facilitator guide and read the descriptions of the following discussions and activities:

- Introduction to the module (page 8)
- Prepare a brief discussion of what participants have read in sections 1, 2 and half of section 3. You may use the sample questions in Appendix B.
- Prepare an example of a country-specific NCD study so that participants can create table shells (page 11).
- Prepare background information for the Skill Assessment (page 18).

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Some of the content of this module was taken from a training manual developed by the CDC, Division of Epidemiology and Surveillance Capacity Development: Advanced Management and Analysis of Data Using Epi Info for Windows: Risk Factors for Sexually Transmitted Infections in Kuwadzana, Zimbabwe; 2006.

How to Facilitate This Module

FACILITATOR / MENTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

This training module is self-paced. Participants learn the content by reading their workbook and participating in group discussions. They apply what they learn by completing practice exercises and skill assessments. Participants use a hypertension case study for the practice exercises; for the skill assessments they use information about an NCD study from their own country.

As a *facilitator*, you will *facilitate* or assist in the participants' learning. Your main roles will be as follows:

- Introduce the module topic.
- Lead group discussions to review or elaborate on what participants read.
- **Answer** questions that participants may have during the training.
- **Review** participants' work and provide feedback.
- **Be a timekeeper and**, ensure participants stay within a general schedule.

As a *mentor,* you will perform the same tasks and play a more active role in supporting the learner *after* the training with his or her field work.

CLASS INTRODUCTIONS, OVERVIEW OF WORKSHOP AND SECTIONS 1, 2 AND 3 (UNTIL TABLE SHELLS)

Total Estimated Time: 1 1/2 - 2 1/4 hours

Workshop Introduction and Overview of Training: 30 minutes Readings and Review Activity: up to 45 minutes Group Discussion: 10 minutes Practice Exercise #1: 45 minutes Debrief: 15 minutes

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say					
Group Discussion 30 Minutes	 Workshop Introduction and Overview of Training Introduce yourself and ask participants to introduce one another by providing: Their name Where they work Experience conducting data analysis Expectations for the workshop Distribute the Participant Workbook and Activity Workbook (for this module or all three modules if conducting a 5-day workshop). Explain how participants will learn the skills by reading the Creating an Analysis Plan Participant Workbook and then apply what they have read by completing two practice exercises. Facilitator-led discussions will clarify or elaborate on these exercises. Describe how the activity workbook contains skill assessments where they will apply <i>all</i> of the skills learned in the module to their own NCD study. Provide an overview of the module and the skills taught to prepare them for data analysis: 					
	• Creating an Analysis Plan module explains how to develop a plan for analysis, including identifying datasets and statistical software, and creating table shells to be used in the analysis.					
	 Managing Data module explains how to create a data dictionary to use in the analysis and how to clean the data. 					
	 Analyzing and Interpreting Large Datasets module explains how to conduct descriptive and analytic 					

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say				
	epidemiology and how to interpret and present the findings.				
Activity Activity Reading 45 minutes	Readings and Review Activity Tell participants to read sections 1 and 2, and part of section 3 until they see the "STOP" sign (page 7). They will also complete a brief review activity about types of statistical data. (Skip this step if participants have completed the reading prior to class.)				
Group Discussion 10 minutes	 Group Discussion Lead a brief discussion on what participants have read. You may use the sample questions in Appendix B as a guideline for the discussion. Participants can answer questions orally or you can provide them with the written questions and ask them to record their answers individually or in a group. Participants can use the "Key Points to Remember" section in their participant workbook to record notes or answers. 				
Activity 45 minutes	 Practice Exercise #1 Divide participants into small groups or pairs. Distribute the sample questionnaires for the hypertension case study. Ask them to spend approximately 45 minutes completing the exercise (including reading the hypertension case study and answering the questions). Make sure you are available to answer any questions during the exercise. 				
Group Discussion	 Debrief Review each group or pair's answers. If time permits, you can ask participants to present their answers to the entire class or to another small group or pair for feedback. Possible answers: 				

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say				
15 minutes	 Research question(s) and/or hypotheses: What are the demographic characteristics of the population? Age, sex, education level, racial/ethnic group, geographic region? What are the relevant behavioral factors and/or health conditions relevant to hypertension? Physical activity, diet, tobacco use, overweight/obesity? What is the prevalence and severity of hypertension in the population? What are the prevalence of awareness, treatment, and control of high blood pressure? What segments of the population are at highest risk and the best candidates for preventive intervention? 				
	 Dataset(s) to be used: National health survey data (includes behavioral risk factors and biometric measurements, such as blood pressure, height, weight) and provincial hospital data Inclusion/exclusion criteria: All records in the national health survey and provincial hospital data that pertain to hypertension and the risk factors (physical activity, diet, tobacco use, overweight/obese) 				
	 Variables to be used in the main analysis: (List 3 or 4 outcomes and exposure variables. You will create a data dictionary in another module.) The variables may be included in the national health survey which included demographic and descriptive characteristics and biometric measurements. The survey has been conducted every two years for the past decade. The most recent health survey data were collected last year. The provincial hospital data would be able to provide a more focused look at admissions and discharge data, including costs of care and services used. Detailed dietary recall data are not available. Note: The amount of questions in the survey has been limited because of brevity, understanding, time, etc. Other relevant risk factors would likely be included in larger surveys. This could be 				

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say					
	a teaching point about survey development, or a recommendation for future survey implementation.					
	Statistical methods and software to be used:					
	Univariable analysis (descriptive statistics), Bivariable analysis, Multivariable analysis					
	Participants should list the statistical software used in their country (e.g., SPSS, SAS).					

SECTION 3: PREPARING TABLE SHELLS

Total estimased time: 1 hour, 50 minutes – 2 ½ hours Readings and Activities: up to 40 minutes Group Discussion: 20 minutes Practice Exercise #2: 1 hour Debrief: 30 minutes

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say				
Activity Activity Reading 40 minutes	Readings and Activities Participants read 5 pages (until page 18) and complete two, brief activities.				
Prepare	 Group Discussion Provide an example of an NCD study that has been requested or prepared (you may create this information or use a country-specific example of a priority NCD). Ask for volunteers to draw and record examples of: A univariate table shell 				
Group	 A bivariable table shell 				

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say				
Discussion Flip Chart 20 minutes	 Variable pairs to test for statistical associations using chi- square and t-tests as appropriate A table shell to prepare for calculating measures of association Potential confounders Table shells to assess for confounding and effect measure modification (interaction) Include in the discussion a brief review of how to select the referent (or reference) category. Explain that you would select the category that has the lowest level of exposure or absence of risk factors. Sometimes, the category with the highest level of exposure may be selected if you want to show protection. Also note that if the category with the lowest level of exposure has few observations, it may not be a good comparison group to use. 				
Reading 1 hour	 Practice Exercise #2 Keep participants in the same groups or pairs as in the previous exercise. Ask them to spend approximately 1 hour completing the exercise. Make sure you are available to answer any questions during the exercise. 				
Group Discussion Discussion Flip Chart 30 Minutes	 Debrief Review each group or pairs' answers. If time permits, ask participants to present their answers to the entire class by drawing table shells on a flipchart. Possible answers and tables include: Section 1 – Case Study Use the space below to create at least three table shells to prepare for univariable analyses: 				

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say						
	Demographic Characteristics: Sex						
	Sex	Percentage (%) (Standard Error [SE])					
	Male						
	Female						
	Total						
	Demographic C	haracteristics: Education – High School or More					
	Race	Percentage (%) (Standard Error [SE])					
	Non-Hispanic						
	white						
	Non-Hispanic						
	black						
	Hispanic						
	Other						
	Blood Pressure	categories ²					
	BP Levels	Percentage (%)(Standard Error [SE])					
	Normotensive						
	Prehypertensiv	e					
	Hypertensive						
	2. Use the space	e below to create at least two table shells to					

² Could be prevalence, treatment or control of hypertension. Prevalence: Average blood pressure ≥140/90 mmHg or reported current use of blood pressure-lowering medication. Treatment: An answer of "yes" to the question "Are you currently taking medication to lower your blood pressure?" Among those with hypertension (average systolic blood pressure ≥140 mmHg, average diastolic pressure ≥90 mmHg, or current medication use). Control: Average treated blood pressure <140/90 mmHg on examination among all persons with hypertension.

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say						
	prepare for bivariable analyses.						
	Outcome: Hypertension						
	<u>Exposure:</u>						
	<u>Sex</u>	Yes No					
		N*	%	95% CI	N*	%	95% CI
	<u>Exposure:</u>						
	<u>Race/Ethnic</u> <u>Group</u>		Yes			No	
		N*	%	95% CI	N*	%	95% CI
	Facilitator Note The first assess descriptive. The prevalence individuals in a population))	e: men of a popu	t of a cros disease is Ilation. (i.e	ss-section s the prop e., prevale	al study/s portion of ence = (ca	survey diseas ases)/(t	is ed :otal
							450
	LAPOSUIE		50(a)		500 (d)		550
			100		900		
	P1=a/a+b=50/450=11% prevalence of outcome						
	among people v	who a	are not ex	posed.			
	P0= c/c+d = 50/550 = 9% prevalence of outcome among people who are exposed.						

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say						
	 Section 2 – Case Study 1. Use the following template to list the variable pairs for which you will test a statistical association. 						
	Statistical TestVariables to Assesschi-squareRace/Ethnicity vs. Hypertension prevalence						
	t-test	 t-test <i>Gender</i> by <i>Continuous blood pressure</i> 2. Fill out the following tables to prepare for calculating measures of association. 					
	2. Fill out the foll association.						
	Outcome Variab	le: Hy	pertensio	on			
	Exposure Variable:	sure ble:					
	Sex		Yes	No			
	Male						
	Female						
	PR = POR = χ² = , df= , p= Outcome Variab	le: Hy	pertensio	on			
	Exposure Variable:						
	Race		Yes	No			
	Non-Hispanic white						
	Other						
	PR = POR =						

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say							
	$\chi^2 = , df = , p =$							
	Outcome Variable: Hypertension							
	Exposure	Exposure						
	Variable:							
	Education	Yes	No					
	<12 Grade							
	>12 Grade							
	PR =							
	POR =							
	χ^2 = , df= , p=							
	Facilitator Note:							
	The second type o	f analysis in c	ross-sectional studie	es/surveys is				
	analytic (after desc	criptive).		2				
	Several tests can be used to test association between variables. Chi square tests can be used to assess general significance, but the test generally does not provide information on the strength of the association. Chi square tests are used with nominal/categorical variables and the cell counts should be greater than 5.							
	Prevalence ratio and prevalence odds ratio can be used to test for associations and provide an assessment on the magnitude of the association. Example:							
			Outcome					
	Exposure	50 (a)	400 (b)	450				
		50 (c)	500 (d)	550				
		100	900					
	P1= a/a+b= 50/450 among people who P0= c/c+d = 50/55	0 = 11% preva o are not expo 0 = 9% preval	lence of outcome sed. ence of outcome					

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say						
	among people who are exposed.						
	POR = ad/bc = $(50 \times 500) / (400 \times 50) = 1.25$. PR = $(a/N_1) / (c/N_0) = (50/450) / (50/550) = 1.2$. The proportion of people with the outcome is 1.25 or 1.2 times greater if the person is unexposed compared to those exposed.						
	Section 3 – Case Study:						
	1. List at least one potential confounder for the hypertension study. Age, sex, education, race/ethnicity						
	 What table shells do you need to prepare to assess for confounding and effect modification? Use the space below to create at least two table shells. Is gender a risk factor for hypertension? (Among nonobese) 						
	Hypertension						
	Gender	nder Yes No					
		N* % 95% CI			N*	%	95% CI
	Male						
	Female						
	*Unweighted N PR = POR =						
	Hypertension						
	Weight ClassificationYesNo						
		N*	%	95% CI	N*	%	95% CI
	Obese						
	Nonobese						

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say						
	* Unweighted N PR = POR =						
	Does gender modify the association between obesity and hypertension?						
	Hypertension by Weight Classification - Gender: Males						: Males
	Weight Classification	Yes No					
		N*	%	95% CI	N*	%	95% CI
	Obese						
	Nonobese						
	*Unweighted N PR = POR = Hypertensio	n by \	Veight	Classifica	tion - G	ender:	Females
	Weight Classification		Yes			No	
		N*	%	95% CI	N*	%	95% CI
	Obese						
	Nonobese						
	* Unweighted N PR = POR =	1	-			_	

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say		
	You may ask participants an additional question: Is gender in the pathway between obesity and hypertension? <i>No</i> Note: When assessing confounding and effect modification, consider stratification of variables (e.g., age group, gender, etc.) to		
	hypertension). Stratification allows you to observe relationships beyond the crude association.		

SKILL ASSESSMENT

Total Estimated Time: 2 hours Skill Assessment: 1 ½ hours Debrief: 30 minutes

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say		
Type Type Activity Activity Prepare 1 1/2 Hours	 What to Do/What to Say Skill Assessment The skill assessment contains four sections which is a compilation of all skills learned in the module. Participants will use the information you provide them on an NCD study to complete the skill assessment for this module and the other two data analysis modules. Participants are encouraged to complete the skill assessment individually; however, if someone does not have an NCD study to work with, you can pair him/her up with another colleague. Distribute the background information participants will need to complete the skill assessment for a study in their own country, such as: Sample questionnaires A description of the study including the information necessary to complete all sections, for example, the study question that needs to be answered. Ask participants to take out their Activity Workbook and briefly 		
	 Observe participants completing the assignment and be available to answer any questions. 		

Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say		
6	Debrief You may review participants' responses after each section or at the end of the skill assessment.		
Group			
Discussion			
30 Minutes			

CONCLUSION

Total Estimated Time: 15 minutes					
Duration/Session Type	What to Do/What to Say				
Group Discussion 15 Minutes	 Conclusion Ask participants to provide some of the main points they learned in the module. Ask participants for their reactions to what they learned in the training and how they will apply the skills when they return to their job. Ask what they will do <u>differently</u> after applying the information in this module. 				

Appendix A

Sample Agenda for Data Analysis Workshop

Day 1: Introduction to Workshop Creating Data Analysis Plan module

Estimated Time	Activity	Facilitator(s)
8:30 – 9:00	Introduce participants and facilitators, and provide overview of workshop	
9:00 – 9:35	Participants read: Section 1: Introduction, Section 2: Overview of Data Analysis, and first half of Section 3: Analysis Plan	
9:35 – 9:45	Facilitator leads brief discussion on readings	
9:45 – 10:45	Practice Exercise #1, including review of answers	
10:45 – 11:00	TEA/COFFEE BREAK	
11:00 – 11:40	Participants read how to prepare table shells	
11:40 – 12:00	Facilitator leads brief discussion on readings	
12:00 – 13:00	Practice Exercise #2	
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH	
14:00 – 14:30	Facilitator leads review of Practice Exercise #2 answers	
14:30 – 16:30	Skill Assessment, including review of answers (Participants take their own 15-minute break)	
16:30 – 16:45	Facilitator concludes module	

Day 2: Managing Data module

Estimated Time	Activity	Facilitator(s)
8:30 - 8:40	Distribute Managing Data module Facilitator leads brief introduction to <i>Managing</i> <i>Data</i> module	
8:40 - 8:55	Participants read: Section 1: Introduction and Section 2: Overview of Data Management	
8:55 - 9:05	Participants read: Section 3: Data Dictionary	
9:05 – 9:20	Facilitator leads brief discussion on readings	
9:20 - 10:00	Practice Exercise #1, including review of responses	
10:00 – 10:15	BREAK	
10:15 – 11:15	Skill Assessment #1, including review of response	
11:15 – 11:35	Participants read: Section 4: Overview to cleaning data; common errors, duplicate records	
11:35 – 11:50	Facilitator leads brief discussion on readings	
11:50 – 12:30	Practice Exercise #2 , including review of responses	
12:30 – 13:00	Participants read: Missing data, miscodes, out-of-range data	
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH	
14:00 – 14:30	Facilitator leads brief discussion on readings	
14:30 – 15:30	Practice Exercise #3 , including review of responses (Participants take their own 15-minute break)	
15:30 – 16:30	Skill Assessment #2, including review of response	
16:30 – 16:45	Facilitator concludes module	

Estimated	Activity	Facilitator(s)
Time		
8:30 – 8:45	Facilitator lead brief review of previous days' activities	
8:45 – 8:50	Facilitator introduces Analyzing Large Data Sets module	
8:50 – 9:15	Participants read Sections 1 and 2	
9:15 – 9:25	Facilitator leads overview of readings	
9:25 – 9:55	Participants read part of Section 3 on univariable analysis and complete two brief activities	
9:55 – 10:15	BREAK	
10:15 – 10:30	Facilitator leads discussion on readings and reviews statistical software commands	
10:30 – 11:40	Practice Exercise #1, including review of responses/answers	
11:40 – 12:00	Participants read bivariable analysis and complete 5 brief activities	
12:00 – 12:15	Facilitator leads discussion on readings and reviews statistical software commands	
12:15 – 13:05	Practice Exercise #2, including review of responses/answers	
13:05 – 14:05	LUNCH	
14:05 – 14:40	Participants read part of Section 4: Overview to analytic statistics, concepts of association, statistical significance testing and confidence intervals	
14:40 – 14:55	Facilitator leads overview of readings and reviews statistical software commands	
14:55 – 16:15	Practice Exercise #3 , including review of responses/answers	

Day 3: Analyzing and Interpreting Large Datasets module

Estimated Time	Activity	Facilitator(s)
8:30 – 9:05	Participants read about stratified analysis, EFFECT MODIFICATION, and confounding	
9:05 - 9:20	Facilitator leads discussion on readings from previous day	
9:20 – 10:25	Practice Exercise #4 and review of answers	
10:25 – 10:40	COFFEE/TEA BREAK	
10:40 – 11:00	Participants read about interpreting and reporting findings	
11:00 – 11:15	Facilitator leads discussion on readings and reviews statistical software commands	
11:15 – 12:15	Practice Exercise #5 and review of answers	
12:15 – 13:00	Begin Skills Assessment	
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH	
14:00 – 16:30	Skill Assessment	

Day 4: Analyzing and Interpreting Large Datasets module

Estimated Time	Activity	Facilitator(s)
8:30 – 10:15	Complete Skill Assessment and present findings	
10:15 – 10:30	COFFEE/TEA BREAK	
10:30 – 12:00	Complete presentations; Facilitator leads conclusion of the module/course	

Day 5: Analyzing and Interpreting Large Datasets module

Appendix B

Sample Review Questions for Sections 1 and 2 and First Half of Section 3:

1. What are some benefits of creating an analysis plan?

Possible answer:

An analysis plan helps you think through the data you will collect, what you will use it for, and how you will analyze it. Creating an analysis plan is an important way to ensure you collect all the data you need and that you use all the data you collect.

- 2. An FETP resident created an analysis plan by including the following:
 - Research question(s) and/or hypotheses
 - Dataset to be used
 - Table shells for univariable analysis

What additional components of the analysis plan should she have included?

Answer:

- Inclusion/exclusion critera
- Variable to be used in the main analysis
- Statistical methods and software to be used
- Table shells for bivariable and stratifed analysis

Review the answers to the types of statistical data activity by asking questions such as:

- 1. What is an example of nominal data?
- 2. What is an example of ordinal data?
- 3. What is an example of interval data?
- 4. What is an example of ratio data?

Sample Review for Section 4:

Ask for volunteers to provide examples of:

- A univariable table
- A bivariable table