



Introduction to Meta-analysis

Facilitators

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Learning objectives

- Define what meta-analysis is and explain its purpose in research synthesis.
- Understand key concepts like effect size, heterogeneity, and publication bias.
- Describe the basic steps in conducting a meta-analysis.
- Interpret basic meta-analysis output (e.g., forest plots).
- Identify appropriate contexts for applying meta-analysis

Brief description of content

The webinar will mix short lectures, live demonstrations, and interactive Q&A sessions. Participants will first be introduced to key concepts with slides and examples. A short practical demonstration will be done using freely available online meta-analysis tools or basic examples in Stata, R or Excel (depending on audience familiarity).

Pre-readings

1. Borenstein, M., Hedges, L.V., Higgins, J.P.T., & Rothstein, H.R. (2009). Introduction to Meta-Analysis. Wiley. (Chapters 1-2)
2. Short article: "What is a meta-analysis?" by Cochrane Collaboration (freely available online)