

**UTHealth Cizik School of Nursing  
Center for Nursing Research  
Guidelines for Statistical Support for Faculty**

Statistical analysis support is provided to faculty at the UTHealth Cizik School of Nursing as a service to investigators conducting research studies and to those pursuing funding for their research projects. Services are provided in the following areas: planning for data collection and analysis, sample size calculation, analysis of data, and interpretation of results.

Investigators will need to provide the statistician with the necessary details about their study to permit an informed review and determination of the statistical methods required. Investigators should also plan their projects accordingly to ensure adequate time is allowed for the various portions that require statistical services. Below is the initial information that is requested from faculty when they are in need of statistical support:

- 1.) Hypotheses (what are your research questions?)
- 2.) Study Design (for example, cross-sectional or longitudinal?)
- 3.) Variables (level of measurement, instruments and their scoring, and frequency and timing of measures)

**Please note:** Faculty members should be aware that once a data analysis plan has been created and agreed upon, the statistician will only conduct the analysis included in that plan. Additional data analysis, if needed, can only be performed if time or funding permits and within the limits of good statistical practice. **Deviating from the data analysis plan and conducting numerous additional statistical tests can lead to errors in interpretation and is not good statistical practice.**

Below is a description of the statistical services available to faculty based on the type of project:

**Funded projects:** Statistical analysis of data from research studies and interpretation of results is provided to faculty with funds to pay for the services. Payment is preferred on a percent effort basis. Statistical methods and results sections can be provided for manuscripts and abstracts. Results sections are written in collaboration with the investigator. If the statistician is co-investigator on the study, he or she can also participate in dissemination of findings through publications and presentations.

**Projects seeking funding:** A data analysis plan can be furnished to faculty seeking funding for their research project. Sample size calculation and a randomization plan can also be provided. Statistical methods sections, based on the plan for analysis, can be written for grant applications and other funding proposals.

**Unfunded projects:** Services available to funded projects are also available to research projects that do not have funding. Please note that priority for statistical services will be given to funded research projects.