

Case Study 1: Power for Horse Insulin Measurements

This morning I had an interesting consultation and I want to discuss it with all of you! I met with a veterinarian who studies metabolic diseases in horses. They have several methods of measuring a horse's insulin response. One is more expensive and generally takes longer; it's also considered a better test. The other is cheaper, faster, and not considered to be as good. They don't measure exactly the same thing, so they are in different units and can't be directly compared. However, it is believed that they both are getting at the same underlying process – but no one has ever really compared the two. That's what this study will be about. It's at the grant proposal stage (hooray!) so she came to me asking to help her do a power calculation to determine how many horses they need to measure.

1. What additional questions would you ask the client?

2. What are some concerns and/or things to consider when planning this analysis?

3. What are some ideas you have to do the power calculation?

Name: _____

Today we discussed a case I had just this morning, and as I mentioned, it was more complex than what I would usually introduce so early in the course; still, I hope it was interesting and that you learned something, possibly about communication, or how to address a client's problem, or perhaps something more technical.

Describe something you learned today:
