

# Descriptive Studies

All epidemiological studies can be divided into observational and experimental studies.

Observational studies observe and measure the effects on disease rates of exposures of interest (as they occur in the population). They are further subdivided in Descriptive and Analytical studies.

## Descriptive studies

Descriptive studies describe the **distribution of disease** or other health outcome in populations. They **do not attempt** to link outcomes to exposures, in other words they describe facts (e.g.: disease prevalence) without trying to assign aetiology to the degree of prevalence (or any other statistical value).

Example: number of deaths or number of HIV cases. Useful for health service planning. Based on existing data. 3 questions (who?, where?, when?).

## Links

### Related articles

- Analytical Studies

### External links

### Sources

### References

### Bibliography

- BENCKO CHARLES UNIVERSITY, PRAGUE 2004, 270 P, V, et al. *Hygiene and epidemiology. Selected Chapters*. 2nd edition. Prague. 2008. ISBN 9788024607931.

### Further reading



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