MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Statistics and Probability

COLLOQUIUM

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Statistical History that is Very Relevant to Today's Clinical Trials; especially with more "Data Miners," Publication Bias and "Expert" Central Reviewers of components of Clinical Trials

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Abstract

Examples from clinical trials will be presented that emphasize the importance of statistical investigators to ensure that trials are well designed, appropriately analyzed and interpreted. Statistical History and several of the examples that include retrospective analyses and subset analyses will draw attention to what may be expected from Mining databases. An example of a pediatric brain tumor clinical trial will also be presented highlighting the impact of "expert" central reviewers on the population to which statistical inferences may be valid. This example also cautions investigators to be careful in comparing results of their clinical trial with published findings. Clinical trial investigators have an ethical responsibility to publish the results of their trials regardless of the conclusions.

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