4 Putting it all together: Additional exercises

That which we persist in doing becomes easier.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

If you have completed the exercises in the previous sections of this book, you probably know more than you did when you first picked it up. This final section contains a variety of exercises to consolidate and extend your knowledge.

Whereas the exercises in the other sections focused on specific points, in this section you will have an opportunity to apply what you learned in a more realistic scenario, where all of the points dealt with in the previous sections come together.

Exercise 86

Find and correct the mistakes due to the influence of Spanish in these sentences.

- 1) CT allowed to be confirmed a stone in the left ureter.
- 2) Frontotemporal lobular degeneration is a term used to describe a group of clinically, pathologically, and genetically heterogeneous disorders that cause dementia.
- 3) The people from the pharmaceutical company is waiting in your office.
- 4) None of the studied patients died.
- 5) We studied the physiopathology of arterial stiffness in patients on hemodialysis.
- 6) Dr. Brescia is a member of the Association of Medical Directors of America.
- 7) Most infants (87%) responded to all the guestions on the guestionnaire.
- 8) The gastroenterology resident asked that I do a barium study.
- 9) It is important to discard DNA contamination in the RNA preparations.
- 10) Dr. Hill suggested to do a colonoscopy.
- 11) Dr. Budinsky explains very well the procedure.
- 12) Some of the reactant remained after the reaction.
- 13) When I was at college, I was the youngest child in my class; however, during my career I was the oldest in the faculty.
- 14) Dr. Oates would like see the results of the analysis.
- 15) Infirmary complies with hand-washing protocol better than the physicists.
- 16) Osteomuscular disorders can affect the muscles, joints, tendons, ligaments, and nerves.
- 17) Two participating centers in the study dropped out due to low recruitment.
- 18) The telediastolic volume is the amount of blood in the ventricle after contraction.
- 19) Please show us the chart of the patient.
- 20) The reported rates of complications oscillated between 1% and 34%.

Exercise 87

Change these sentences to make them shorter and simpler.

- 1) A study is currently underway to determine whether or not sex is an independent risk factor.
- 2) Complications after surgery occurred in a great number of patients.
- 3) Adipose tissue has a honeycomb appearance due to the fact that lipids are removed during normal tissue processing.
- 4) The paper needs to be published no later than April 1.
- 5) There are many germs that can cause pneumonia.
- 6) She published her doctoral thesis in the year 2011.

Continue

7)	Early occlusion of the stent may be due to the fact that angioplasty is performed when the patient is hypercoagulated.
8)	The lesion was round in shape.
9)	Subjects were weighed on a daily basis.
10)	During the course of the experiment, untreated mice had a total of 12 seizures, whereas treated mice had none at all.
11)	Echocardiograms were performed on a daily basis in all patients receiving adriamycin.
12)	Cells are joined together end to end to form fibers.
13)	Lesions that were malignant in nature were surgically resected.
14)	Proofreading is absolutely essential before sending your article for review.
15)	Ischemic injuries due to an occlusion of the superior mesenteric artery include but are not limited to the jejunum, the ileum, the cecum, and the right colon.
16)	Abdominal palpation was used for the purpose of measuring the size of the spleen.
17)	Needless to say, celiac disease and gluten sensitivity are two separate entities.
18)	Up to the present moment, only two cases have been reported in the literature.
19)	A large number of findings are not infrequently equivocal.
20)	The rate of infections was higher in comparison to in the group receiving macrolides.
21)	There was serous fluid inside of the pleural space.
22)	The abdominal CT showed two large, 6 cm lesions that were round in shape.
23)	We estimated that about one out of ten patients would refuse to participate.

24)	Comorbidities were greater in number among older patients.
25)	At the present time, we have three full-time postdocs and six doctoral candidates.

 rcise 88 specific ways to ensure the following characteristics in a scientific manuscript. PRECISION:
SIMPLICITY:
CONCISION:
FLUIDITY:

Exercise 89

Improve these 100 sentences however you can.

- 1) Apart from the book you have in your hands, other book will appear soon (in print).
- 2) Martin et al.'s findings are different than our study.
- 3) The sole exclusion criteria was intracranial hemorrhage.
- 4) It is shown in the randomized placebo controlled study that...
- 5) 245 patients (145 men and 100 females) were subjected to Magnetic Resonance Imaging.
- 6) Patients operated for congenital cardiopathies were controlled for two years.
- 7) Patients who past the weaning trial were extubated inmediately.
- 8) Only male rats, who weighed 500 g at a very minimum, were utilized in the experiment.
- 9) We discuss about the results that are presented in Table 3 and figure 2 in the final section.
- 10) Of the \$250,000 dollars we received for the study 40 per cent (100,000) were spent on equipments.
- 11) The vast majority of the dogs (12 out of 15) failed to survive for more than twelve weeks.
- 12) An US examination was performed and found that her appendix had signs of inflamation.
- 13) Subjects had to be older than 65 years old, smoke at least twenty cigarettes for day, and they had to have a body mass index of at least 25.
- 14) In patient's diagnosed of malignant hepatocellular carcinoma, MRI was performed prior to performing any procedures.
- 15) The patient, an elderly man of 75 years of age, showed good evolution during the period of hospitalization.
- 16) The mean arterial tension in operated patients oscillated between 65 and 90.
- 17) We did not have money enough to finalize the third experiment.
- 18) A twenty years old boy victim of a motorcycle crash was hurt in multiple parts of his body.

- 19) The results that we got in the last experiment, proved beyond the shadow of a doubt, that our hypotheses were right.
- 20) The program included a work shop on analysing the etiology of the diarrhoea.
- 21) Patients with esplenic affectation should be monitorized carefully.
- 22) Treatment consists in watchful waiting and monitorization of evolution.
- 23) The patient complained about sputum that was reddish brown in color.
- 24) As the children became younger, the severity of disease increased.
- 25) The most common pathogenic organism in these settings are Staphylococci.
- 26) We had three hypothesis: firstly, rats with brain damage would develop lung injury before rats without, second, lung injury in these rats would be worse, and last but not least, there will be some other differences in the evolution of the two groups of animals.
- 27) However we examined the anatomic piece and found no signs of neoplasia.
- 28) These phenomenon are extremely rare in most cases.
- 29) The ethical comitee at our institution gave their approval for the study.
- 30) Due to the fact that we had a lot of false negative results our sensibility was low.
- 31) Wriggling under the conjunctiva of the patients left eye, we saw a large worm.
- 32) Shingles are caused by the same viruses as the ones that cause chicken pocks.
- 33) They pretended to lower the rate of nosocomial infection four fold.
- 34) Different from those in the treatment group, at the three months follow up, none of the patients of the control group showed a significant increase of body weight.
- 35) A 35% of the procedures we performed under local or regional anesthesia.
- 36) It was found that administrating the drug in fasting patients' frequently resulted in lost of consciousness.
- 37) The examination was performed after the subjects had been given an intravenous contrast agent.
- 38) It has long been known that brain plasticity in the children is greater than in the adults.
- 39) The actual reason for these intracellular changes that seem to alter the cells ability to regulate calcium intake are poorly known.
- 40) Men like sports more than women.
- 41) Student research grants between \$500 to \$5,000 are available.
- 42) Before cardiac resynchronization therapy for auricular flutter, it is important to insure >90% biventricular pacing.
- 43) Immunofluorescence allowed to confirm the diagnosis of lupus erythematosus.
- 44) Whether or not colera becomes epidemic depends largely of hygiene measures.
- 45) It is well known that observational studies cannot demonstrate causation beyond a shadow of a doubt.
- 46) MRI was performed, showing extensive damage to the intervertebral disc.
- 47) Our results would seem to suggest that our approach might possibly have some usefulness in a carefully selected population.
- 48) Endpoint PCR can only detect 10 fold changes on agarose gel.
- 49) Real time PCR can detect two-fold changes.
- 50) This poster is Dr. Smiths.
- 51) The secretion of proteins occurs through the exocytosis of membranous vesicles.
- 52) The incidence of AIDS was higher in homosexual men than in normal men.
- 53) The objective of this work is to determine the effect of diet supplementation with quinine on body weight and body composition in male mice, to investigate its mechanism of action, and whether the effect is mediated through Trpm5.



- 54) It is well known that given a similar dose of ionizing radiation and identical biological characteristics 9–10 percent of normal population have higher radiation response.
- 55) A case of a 63 year old male being treated with FOLFOX chemotherapy for stage 3B colorectal cancer, who developed bilateral optic disc edema and associated left sided optic neuropathy is described.
- 56) After hydrodissection of the synovial membrane with lidocaine, 80 mg of triamcinolone acetonide were injected into the knee.
- 57) The treatment lead to a rapid and efficient correction of both clinical symptoms and plasma sodium level.
- 58) Most of COPD medications except inhaled muscarinic antagonists were associated with GERD.
- 59) Vitamin D is not only crucial for bone health but for proper brain development and functioning.
- 60) During treatment or follow-up 352 patients (20%) showed exitus.
- 61) Different from what occurs in other cells, in neurons small changes in the expression of membrane receptor proteins can have far-reaching effects on the activity of neural networks.
- 62) It is important to note that manganese was shown to induce cell swelling in cultured astrocytes and that astrocytic pathology, such as gliosis and Alzheimer type II astrocytes were observed in both animal and cell culture models in response to manganese exposures.
- 63) One of the most popular and versatile model of murine melanoma is by inoculating B16 cells in the syngeneic C57BL6J mouse strain.
- 64) Irregardless of the fluctuations of the SERS signal from one acquisition to another, some bands could still be correlated.
- 65) Looking at the overall shape of these spectra, we noticed they resemble well the SERS spectra acquired from *ex vivo* mice skin tissue samples immersed in colloidal silver solution.
- 66) Beside the cells number, fetal calf serum concentration was also analyzed in each sample.
- 67) AML diagnosis was made in accordance with the revised French-American-British classification.
- 68) Overexpression of BAD was performed by transfecting different NSCLC cell lines with wild-type BAD.
- 69) A higher number of individuals were found to present mutations in the CD group and double mutants were only detected in the IBD group.
- 70) Future studies should address a larger sample of patients and controls from different geographical regions within the same country and measure possible environmental aspects of each region as well as culture and dietary habits.
- 71) There have been some different opinions in the published reports about the impact of body mass index on outcomes after aortic valve replacement.
- 72) The baseline characteristics of experimental and control animals are resumed in Table 1.
- 73) One of the important limitations of this study were the absence of physiological data.
- 74) We used the nonparametric Kaplan-Meier method to estimate survival curves and a log-rank test was used to compare survival curves between the two groups.
- 75) In the end of the provisional recruitment period, 23 patients had only been enrolled.
- 76) Only a 15% of the patients was still alive at the end of the follow up period.
- 77) Idiopathic granulomatous mastitis is a benign lesion with malignant clinical and radiological aspects.
- 78) Proteomic investigation of muscle mitochondria revealed decrease of several flavoenzymes.
- 79) This results suggest that antidepressive use among individuals without psychiatric diagnoses is common in the Unites States.

- 80) We received a grant for more than \$2 million dollars.
- 81) A number of experimental animals had levels of testosterone that were elevated compared to the control group.
- 82) Men were more likely to get traumatic lesions than females.
- 83) The eighteen month-old babies included in the study all walked toward their mothers.
- 84) Other disease processes involving the dura matter or subdural space can resemble meningiomas on neuroimaging.
- 85) Cardiac catheterization showed the coronary arteries were all permeable.
- 86) We investigated the security and efficacy of the drug in children.
- 87) The decision of if to operate or not is decided by the comite.
- 88) The maxillar arteries branch from the external carotid artery.
- 89) Improved INR control will improve outcomes for patients treated with warfarin, as it is suggested by the results of the bleeding analyses according to center TTR.
- 90) Either the primary tumor or its metastases are responsible of the increase of the marker.
- 91) Rickets most commonly affect children between the ages of 6 to 24 months.
- 92) The bronchus are lined with mucus membranes.
- 93) The patient went in septic shock and was admitted in the ICU.
- 94) Her conclusions were based in faulty premises.
- 95) Our chief which will give the keynote address at the American congress is the most well respected urologist of the world.
- 96) Her mother was operated for an invasive ductal carcinoma.
- 97) After seeing the number of lesions on the abdominal CT study, palliative treatment was decided.
- 98) The residents forgot recording the variable during calls, so there are important gaps in our data.
- 99) We could excise the entire tumor and the margins were clean, so the prognostic is good.
- 100) The level of lactate dehydrogenase was found to be elevated.

Exercise 90

Correct and shorten the abstracts to conform to the journal's requirements.

- 1) The journal's instructions specify a 250-word limit (the current version has 427) and state that abbreviations are not allowed.
 - RATIONALE: Patients with traumatic head injury have been shown to be at high risk of early-onset ventilator-associated pneumonia (EOP). In spite of previous data and recommendations of established guidelines about the ability of antibiotics to reduce the incidence of EOP in this group of patients this practice is not routinely used in daily practice. Clinical implementation of this method of prevention could be facilitated by the use of a unique dosis of antibiotic inmediately after tracheal intubation.
 - OBJECTIVE: The objective of this study was to evaluate the usefulness of the administration of a unique dose of antibiotic at the moment of intubation in the prevention of early-onset ventilator-associated pneumonia (EO-VAP) in patients who are in coma.
 - METHODS: Two different prospective cohorts of comatose patients (Glasgow Coma Score ≤ 8) were compared: patients admitted in 2009-2010 who were administrated a unique dose of antibiotic within the first 4 hours of intubation as prophylaxis of EOP and comatose patients

without prophylactic antibiotic administration comprising patients, admitted ≥ 4 hours after intubation in 2009-2010, and a historical cohort of patients in coma from 2007-2008. The following variables were analysed in all patients: demographic variables, comorbidities, cause of coma, incidence of EO-VAP (within the first 4 days), late-onset ventilator-associated pneumonia (LO-VAP), and ventilator-associated tracheobronchitis (VAT), etiology, duration of mechanical ventilation, length of intensive care unit and hospital stays, and mortality rate. The effectiveness of antibiotic prophylaxis was estimated using propensity score regression analysis.

MEASUREMENTS AND MAIN RESULTS: One hundred and twenty-nine patients were included in the study. Seventy-one belonged to the prophylaxis group (Study group) and fifty-eight belonged to non-antibiotic group (Control group). The global incidence rate of pneumonia in the prophylaxis group was 10.8 episodes/1000 days mechanical ventilation, and 28.4 episodes/1000 days mechanical ventilation in control group (p=0.015). The incidence rate of early-onset ventilator-associated pneumonia in the prophylaxis group was 4.4 episodes/1000 MV days and 23.1 episodes/1000 days MV in control group (p=0.02). There were no differences found in the incidence of late-onset ventilator-associated pneumonia. A trend to a lower incidence of tracheobronchitis was also observed in the prophylaxis group (15.5% vs. 25.9%; p=0.14). No difference was found with regard to mortality when comparing the prophylaxis group with the control group. However, we observed a statistically significant reduction in the total days of mechanical ventilation and in the length of stay in the ICU in the study group. CONCLUSIONS: Administration of a unique dose of antibiotic in comatose patients, at the moment of intubation, significantly reduces the incidence of early ventilator-associated pneumonia, also reducing ICU and hospital length of stay.

2) Correct the mistakes in this abstract and shorten it to meet the 150-word limit.

BACKGROUND

There is a lack of objective measures of the clinical efficacy of allergen immunotherapy which relies on patients' perception about the effect of this treatment. It has been hypothesized that the fraction of exhaled nitric oxide (FENO) may be indicative of the severity of allergic rhinitis. We studied whether the FENO might be affected by multiple allergen immunotherapy in polysensitized adult subjects with allergic rhinitis. In addition to that, we looked for associations between exhaled nitric oxide and subjects' demographics, symptom scores, and pulmonary function tests.

METHODS

Twenty adult, polysensitized subjects with seasonal and perennial allergic rhinitis who chose to undergo allergen immunotherapy were recruited and enrolled. They were evaluated at baseline, and at 4, 8, 12, 24, and 52 weeks later. Exhaled nitric oxide was reported as the mean of triplicate determinations.

FINDINGS

Our results indicate that multiple allergen immunotherapy did not affect exhaled nitric oxide levels and such levels did not correlate with subjects' demographics and pulmonary function tests. However, we did find that exhaled nitric oxide was associated with rhinoconjuctivitis and asthma symptom scores at the end of the study.

CONCLUSIONS

In polysensitized adult subjects with allergic rhinitis, exhaled nitric oxide levels are not affected by multiple allergen immunotherapy.

Continue

3) Rewrite this abstract to make it clearer and shorten it to meet the 200-word limit.

BACKGROUND

Acute pharyngitis is frequently seen in primary care settings. In many cases, acute viral pharyngitis is not infrequently misdiagnosed as acute bacterial pharyngitis. Laboratory-confirmed diagnosis of respiratory viruses is recommended. The purpose of this study was to try to compare the sensitivities among three different techniques for obtaining samples for laboratory analysis (oropharyngeal swab, nasopharyngeal swab, and nasal wash) in the diagnostic workup for acute pharyngitis in adults.

METHODS

Oropharingeal swab, nasopharingeal swab, and nasal wash specimens were obtained from each participant with acute pharingitis. The specimens were tested for 15 different respiratory viruses by using TaqMan real-time polymerase chain reaction. A sample was considered to be a true positive if any of the different specimens was positive for any of the different viruses; otherwise, samples were considered to be negative. The sensitivities among samples were compared by using the chi-square test or the Fisher's exact test, as appropriate.

RESULTS

One hundred and three triple samples collected consecutively by oropharyngeal swab, naso-pharyngeal swab, and nasal wash were obtained in total. In 73 patients, at least one or more viruses were detected by one or more of the three methods. Among all the viruses, the sensitivity of the nasofaringeal swab was significantly higher than that of the nasal wash (74% vs. 49%, respectively; p < 0.01) and than that of the oropharyngeal swab (74% vs. 49%, respectively; p < 0.01).

CONCLUSIONS

Flocked nasopharyngeal collection may be the most effective alternate to nasal wash and oropharyngeal swab for the detection of respiratory viruses in adults with acute pharyngitis using TaqMan real-time polymerase chain reaction.