

## Statistical Methods for Clinical Trials

Professor KyungMann Kim (University of Wisconsin–Madison, USA)

June 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Faculty of Computer Science

“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iasi, Romania

<http://thor.info.uaic.ro/~rng/>

## Course Evaluation

*Prepared by Anca Vitcu*

### Overview

The course was attended by a heterogeneous population composed of physicians, statisticians and computer scientists.

The lectures were prepared to cover fundamentals of clinical trials methodology of interest to each group of participants as well as a broad set of examples from different medical fields.

	Course content	Lectures	Documentation	Applications
<b>No. Participants</b>	38	38	38	38
<b>Missing data<sup>*)</sup></b>	2	2	2	3
<b>Average evaluation score<sup>**)</sup></b>	4.61	4.97	4.64	4.33

<sup>\*)</sup> The colleagues who were not able to attend the course received the full documentation (presentations, bibliography).

<sup>\*\*)</sup> 5 – Excellent, 4 – Very good, 3 – Good, 2 – Satisfactory, 1 – Poor

- 29 of 36 participants asserted that their **expectations** where **met** while 7 considered them **exceeded**;
- 28 of 36 participants estimated that the course had a **correct length**, 6 participants considered the course **too short**, while another 2 participants found it **too long**;
- All participants recommend the course to be attended. The quality of information provided was highly valued and also the expertise and teaching abilities of the invited speaker, Professor KyungMann Kim, were very much prized. Addressed to participants of very different background and concerns, the lectures succeeded to reach the attention of each interested group and point out the liaison among the complex issues revealed in clinical trials approached from various research perspectives.

## **Technical aspects**

The course had the online option at the request of 10 participants (Poland, Romania and Serbia). The evaluations received from the online participants were almost similar with the ones of participants in the conference hall, which means that the transmission was in proper audio/video parameters. The broadcast was supervised by me and the Mediaec Platform coordinator. It was used one camera for transmission focused on professor and presentation; usually two cameras should be employed to capture images from different angles. Due to the high number of events held in the university during that period only one camera was recommended by the technical staff.

There were some technical problems we had to deal with but they did not impede the course development; part of them were caused by the incompatibilities in the logistics used by some participants; and part of them were due to the main server of the university which was overloaded - an evaluation was conducted by the engineer in charge with the server administration who concluded that the problems were due to a large number of simultaneous online conferences held at the university during that time and the high temperature in the servers' room which blocked its optimal functionality. But overall, the issues were under control and broadcast was appropriate.

The live transmission was also prepared on the RNG web page to be available for the colleagues who couldn't attend the course fulltime and the location conditions were not appropriate to connect to the conference server.

## **Final conclusions**

The cooperation fulfilled all parts – professor, organizers and attendees.

The course content and documentation proved as being of high interest for the audience and the dedicated lecturer respond in given time framework to a good part of their research questions.

Further collaborations will be subject to near future discussions. In light of this, the course length could be extended and the structure designed based on three modules: one dedicated to physicians, one dedicated to statisticians and computer scientists and a third interdisciplinary module focused on projects implementations using real data or based on proposed scenarios.