Writing the first paper

Some observations and suggestions

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First: the Dagu project period



Reading literature in your field of study

- Actively searching, all the time
- Becoming a master of current literature in your field

Selecting appropriate references

- Backing up statements
- Preferably original peer-reviewed publications
- Review papers vs. single original studies

Selecting a suitable journal

- With whom are you communicating?
- Is the journal interested in the type of manuscript you have?
- Beware of the many new low-quality web-based journals!

Stay focused; avoid being drowned by data

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- Plan analyses before, based on aims run those analyses
- You should master the data, not the other way around
- Multivariable analyses should only be done when motivated (e.g. if adjustment for multiple confounders is needed)

How to manage supervisors' comments

- Write detailed answers to each comment or suggestion
- This is also good training for the rebuttal letters you need to phrase when receiving reviewers' comments from journals

Communicating: solving problems along the way

- Ask supervisors or other advisors when the problem arises – don't waste your and your supervisors' time by running into the wrong direction!
- A public health paper is team work, not a solo performance!

This is the way we will discuss your papers!

