

# Contents

<b>Preface</b>	This <i>A-Z Companion</i> is intended primarily for medical students and health professionals seeking to deepen their understanding of the role of medical statistics in the medical and public health fields. It is my hope that it will be useful to those with a more solid background in medical statistics and epidemiology. The book seeks to provide explanations for terms frequently encountered by readers of the medical literature and by researchers, in such a way as to clarify their meaning and applicability, and show the inter-dependency between various important concepts, to establish a connection between the proper treatment of data generated by research, and the ability to rely on study results to make impactful and consequential decisions. <b>ix</b>
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*Cross-referencing between terms:* This book has been structured as a dictionary, with substantial cross-referencing between the various entries (shown as **bolded terms**). It is hoped this will decrease the need for unnecessary repetitions. The intention with this presentation style is more to provide a 'word cloud' that reinforces the interrelation between concepts and methods, than a prompting for the constant back and forth between definitions. The reader will be the judge of the cross-reference checking that needs to be done. Connections between various terms are reinforced also by inviting the reader to consider additional entries for related material and for comparing and contrasting definitions. It is hoped that