

RANDOMIZATION AT THE BENCH

[ran-duh-my-zay-shuhn]

A method used in research to ensure that subjects receiving different treatments are comparable.

Why randomize?

Randomization eliminates selection bias.



It balances the groups with subjects that retain various known and unknown confounding or prognostic variables.



Statistical tests require that the treatment groups are comparable.



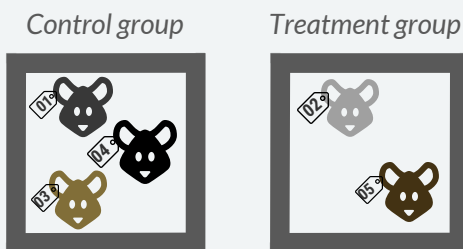
Best Practices

Start by assigning a unique identification number to each animal using indistinguishable ear tags.



Use one of the following to randomly assign unique identification numbers to the various experimental groups.

www.randomization.com
RandoMice
Random number table



From here, you have produced an appropriately randomized sequence and correctly randomized your animals into comparable groups.



Tools and more information

Resources

- Research randomizer and tool tutorial
- Allocation randomization

Publications

- The Need for Randomization in Animal Trials: An Overview of Systematic Reviews, PLoS One 2014.
- A systematic review and meta-analysis of erythropoietin in experimental stroke, JCBFM 2010.

