

Post hoc observational cohort study

A 'post hoc observational cohort study' is a type of observational cohort study in which a retrospective analysis is conducted using data that was already collected, usually for a different original purpose.

Key Features

- **Observational:** No intervention is applied; researchers analyze associations within existing data.
- **Cohort:** The study population is a defined group followed over time.
- **Post hoc:** The analysis was not pre-specified in the original study protocol; it is performed after data collection.
- **Retrospective:** Uses previously gathered data such as medical records, registries, or clinical trial datasets.
- **Exploratory:** Aims to generate hypotheses rather than establish causation.

Limitations

- Increased risk of bias (e.g., selection, confounding).
- Associations found are not necessarily causal.
- Limited to the quality and completeness of existing data.

Example

A clinical trial dataset on aneurysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage, initially collected to study vasospasm, could later be analyzed post hoc to explore whether initial systolic blood pressure correlates with 3-month outcomes.

From:

<https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/> - Neurosurgery Wiki

Permanent link:

https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/doku.php?id=post_hoc_observational_cohort_study

Last update: 2025/06/12 09:48

