

Lane's Laws

0. Always understand and confirm the validity of your invitation to get involved
1. Data is are plural
2. Epidemics don't exist
3. It is difficult to do case control studies without cases
4. Control yourself when choosing controls
5. If the stats don't fit, add one (about zero values in a 2x2 table)
6. Outbreak investigation is fun!
7. Come on guys! You MUST know the answer
8. Publish yesterday (if it's nice to know, it's got to go)
9. Epidemiologists always have a denominator in their back pocket
10. Avoid surveys
11. Temporality is the most important Bradford-Hill criterion
12. Say it and stop



Dr J Michael Lane (1936-2020). Hero of smallpox eradication, talented epidemiologist, dedicated teacher and friend.