**Example Data Analysis Plan Template**

**For Observational Studies**

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# DATA ANALYSIS PLAN

Template

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| --- | --- |
| Project name |  |
| Reference number |  |
| Short name |  |
| Project CIs |  |
| Team members |  |
| Data Analysts |  |
| Changes |  |
| Ethics approval |  |

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| --- | --- |
| **Introduction** | |
| Background |  |
| Existing knowledge |  |
| Knowledge gaps |  |
| Study aims/ purpose |  |
| Research questions |  |
| Study hypotheses |  |

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| --- | --- |
| **Method summary\*** | |
| **Design, Setting, and Participants** | |
| Study design |  |
| Data sets |  |
| Study period |  |
| Study population |  |
| Exclusion criteria |  |
| **Exposure, Main Outcomes and Measures#** | |
| Main exposures |  |
| Main outcomes |  |
| Factors of interest/ Covariates |  |
| Statistical methods |  |
| Subgroup analysis |  |
| Missing data |  |
| Sensitivity analysis |  |
| Analysis package |  |
| Working directory |  |

*\*If headings are not applicable to project, delete field or insert “N/A”. #Detailed definitions to be described in* ***Variables*** *section.*

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| --- | --- |
| **Proposed analytical strategy** | |
| Data sets |  |
| Definitions for exposure |  |
| Definitions for outcomes |  |
| Definitions for potential confounders |  |
| Statistical analysis | *Include:*   * *Frequency and cross-tabulations of main variables* * *Basic analysis model (usually age- and sex-adjusted)* * *Final analysis model (including adjustment for other confounders)* |

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| **Analysis dissemination strategy** |
| *Outline the intended steps to be taken to disseminate the results of the study (i.e. will the results be published, presented at a conference etc)* |

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| **Interpretation/Notes** |
| *Detail how you will interpret the results in the context of your stated hypothesis i.e. if the results do/do not meet your hypothesis, what will you conclude?* |

**Tables and Figures list** (*include* *Supplementary materials in italics*)

**Dummy Tables & Figures**

*Dummy tables and figures are empty skeleton tables and figures which show how the results will be presented but which do not contain any data/results.*

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| **Search Strategy** | |
| Databases |  |
| Search Terms |  |
| Search Dates |  |

**References**