

Cihan University of Sulaimani  
Computer Science Department

Research methodology

Lecture Three



By  
Sherko H. Murad  
[Sherko.murad@Sulicihan.edu.krd](mailto:Sherko.murad@Sulicihan.edu.krd)

## Outline

- Study participants.
- Priorities in participants selection.
- Recruitment of study participants.
- Inclusion criteria.
- Exclusion criteria.

## Objectives

At the end of this session, the student should be able to:

- Define the study participants.
- Define inclusion criteria.
- Identify reasons to exclude participants from the study

## Priorities in participant selection

1. Participants must be representative of the study population.
2. Participants must have the biological, social, or behavioral attributes that will enable the researcher to achieve aim and objectives of the research.
3. The participants selected should be least vulnerable to harm from the research interventions or procedures.

## Recruitment

### Aim of recruitment

1. To recruit a sample that adequately represents the target population. Consider non-response (not more than 20-25%).
2. To recruit enough participants to meet the sample size requirements of the study.
3. Method of recruitment must be selected based on its potential to reach potential participants in sufficient numbers and its appropriateness to the study population

## Inclusion & exclusion criteria

- Inclusion/Exclusion criteria should have clear scientific or clinical rationale and may differ depending on the study design.
- Specifying Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria will enhance the quality of participant selection

## Inclusion & exclusion criteria ( Cont.)

- Effective inclusion and exclusion criteria create the ideal pool of participants to get the most beneficial data for the study.
- There are several challenges when determining the inclusion and exclusion criteria:
  - Too narrow of a criterion can lead to a sample size that produces insignificant amounts of data.
  - Too broad of a criterion can lead to data that is clouded by external factors.

## Inclusion criteria

- Are characteristics that the participants must have if they are to be included in the study.
- Defined as the key features of the target population that the investigators will use to answer the research question.
- It will explain the different requirements someone must meet in order to participate in your study

## Inclusion criteria ( Cont.)

- Typical inclusion criteria include demographic, clinical, and geographic characteristics.
- It is the researcher responsibility to determine which criteria are crucial for the participants to meet in order to help the study collect the most significant results

## Inclusion criteria ( Cont.)

It may include factors such as:

- Age
- Sex
- Ethnicity.
- Type and stage of disease.
- The presence or absence of other medical, psychosocial, or emotional conditions.

## Exclusion criteria

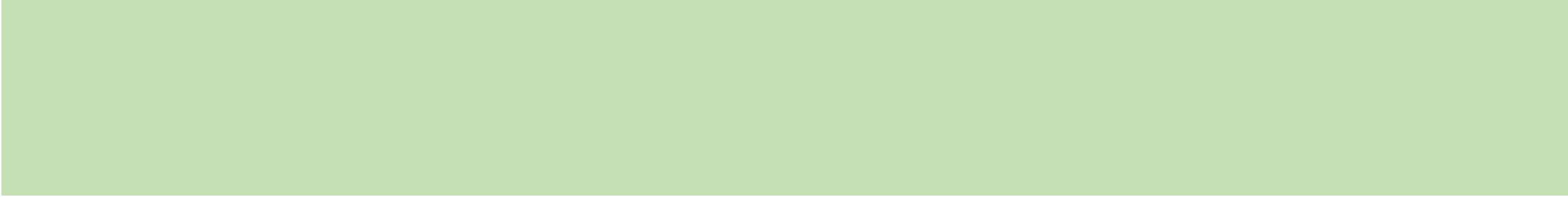
- Exclusion criteria are those characteristics that disqualify prospective participants from inclusion in the study.
- Describe subset of population that won't be studied.
- Characteristics that make it unethical to withhold treatment.
- Participants at high risk of side effects high likelihood of lost to follow-up.
- Characteristics that might interfere with the quality of the data.

## Exclusion criteria ( Cont.)

- The exclusion criteria list features of a person that, if met, immediately deems that person ineligible to participate in the study.
- It is consist of qualities about a person or the external factors around them that would go against the aim of the study or interfere with it.

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# Any Question!