

ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL

The groups of animals being compared should be alike except for the intervention being investigated. This method is called allocation in experimental studies.

In methods, do they describe the randomization and are the control and experimental groups similar (usually table 1)?

 Yes

- The reader can assess whether the comparison groups truly are "equal".

 No

- Bias is a concern when one group may be predisposed to negative or positive outcomes because they are sicker, older or have other characteristics that make them not "equal" to the comparison group.

• example: Table 1

Population	Tx 1	Tx 2
avg. Age	7.2 yo	12.5 yo
% females	55%	60%
avg. Weight	10 kg	11.2kg



un-equal comparison groups do not provide trustworthy truth claims