

Cross-Sectional Study

A cross-sectional study is one type of observational study, in which the researcher does not perform any intervention (such as administering a medicine).

Cross-sectional studies are primarily used to find out how many cases of a disease are present in a population at a given point in time (called 'prevalence'). They are used to assess the health needs of a population and are useful in planning and allocating health resources. Cross-sectional studies are generally performed by survey/questionnaire or interview.