

## Treatment

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Reproduced from *Clinical Trials Dictionary: Terminology and usage recommendation* (Meinert 1996)

"The term **treatment** *n* has been used throughout to refer to the experimental variable in a trial. This usage is consistent with the language of experimental design and with the definition of treatment in *Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary*, namely *the act or manner or an instance of treating someone or something: handling, usage; the techniques or actions customarily applied in a specified situation*. The term does, to be sure, carry medical implications when used in clinical settings in relation to patients.

The possibility of using another term such as **intervention** to designate the experimental variable in trials involving well people was considered but rejected because of the cumbersome nature of such terms, including **intervention**. While that term is largely devoid of the clinical connotation of treatment, it has connotations at odds with trials. None of the definitions of the root term **intervene** *v* in *Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary* are consistent with that usage, strictly speaking. The term, as defined therein, means *to occur, fall, or come between points of time or events; to enter or appear as an irrelevant or extraneous feature or circumstance*. The implication of irrelevance or of being extraneous is hardly a connotation to be conveyed when referring to the most important variable of a trial."

**intervention** *n* - [trials] 1. A **test treatment**, especially one in a **trial** involving nonmedical treatments and well people, such as in a diet trial involving use of different counseling procedures to assess their usefulness in effecting and sustaining changes in eating behavior. 2. Any **study treatment; test** or **control treatment**. *Usage note*: Not recommended as a synonym or replacement for the term **treatment** for reasons discussed in *Explanatory notes* (page ?). Use **treatment, study treatment, test treatment, or control treatment**, as dictated by context. Not recommended because of its ambiguous nature. In a technical sense, anything that one does to another is a form of interference, and, hence, a form of **intervening** (defn 3 of **intervene**), whether or not related to administration of a **study treatment**. The most common usages of the term are in settings where there is a desire to play down the clinical aspects of a trial or where there are no such aspects, as in studies of well people involving nonmedical study treatments, eg, in trials involving education or other nonmedical schemes for modifying the risks of developing subsequent **disease**. However, even in these settings, the term **treatment** is a more apt descriptor of what is done. See **treatment** for additional comments.

**treatment** *n* - 1. The act of **treating**, as in caring for a **patient**. 2. The specific regimen(s), method(s), or procedure(s) being tested in a **trial; test treatment**. 3. An application of a prescribed regimen to a person. 4. **prescribed treatment** 5. The regimen of treatment (including **nil treatment**) and observation indicated by **treatment assignment**. 6. Any condition or **variable** that is purposely varied in an **experiment** to investigate its role in determining or influencing some **measurement** or **outcome**; may be a variable in a simulation process, level of a fertilizer in an agriculture experiment, type or combination of substances or factors (eg, by using different **drugs** or different levels of the same drug) in an experiment involving animals or human beings, etc. *Usage note*: The term, **treatment**, in references to **design**, such as in defn 6, refers to the handling, technique, or action customarily applied in a specified instance. It does not necessarily carry medical connotations, as implied by defn 1. Hence, **control treatment** in a trial may be devoid of "treatment" in the medical sense of usage. See page ? for additional comments. The treatment, as referenced in defn ?, may be a combination of treatments, eg, as in a factorial treatment structure.

Dictionary entries with treatment as a base or modifier term

**active control treatment** *n*  
**active treatment** *n*  
**active treatment dose** *n*  
**adaptive random treatment assignment** *n*  
**adaptive treatment assignment** *n*  
**adaptive treatment assignment design** *n*  
**adaptive treatment assignment schedule** *n*  
 add-on treatment *n*  
**adjunctive treatment, adjunct treatment** *n*  
**adjuvant treatment** *n*  
**administered treatment** *n*  
**adverse treatment effect** *n*  
**advisory-review and treatment effects monitoring committee (ARTEMC)** *n*  
**alternation treatment assignment** *n*  
**alternative control treatment** *n*  
**alternative treatment** *n*  
**alternative treatment hypothesis** *n*  
**analysis by administered treatment** *n*  
**analysis by assigned treatment** *n*  
**analysis by level of treatment compliance** *n*  
**antagonistic treatment effect** *n*  
**apartheid treatment effects monitoring** *n*  
**assigned to treatment** *n*  
**assigned treatment** *n*  
**asymmetrical treatment effects monitoring** *n*  
**background treatment** *n*  
 balanced complete treatment assignment block *n*  
 balanced complete treatment assignment block design *n*  
**balanced incomplete treatment assignment block design** *n*  
**balanced treatment assignment block** *n*  
**balanced treatment assignment block design** *n*  
**balanced treatment design** *n*  
**baseline adaptive treatment assignment** *n*  
**beneficial treatment effect** *n*  
**best medical judgment control treatment** *n*  
**bias free treatment assignment** *n*  
**biased coin treatment assignment** *n*  
 blind treatment assignment *n*  
**block treatment design** *n*  
**blocked treatment assignment** *n*  
**clinic preference treatment design** *n*  
 closed treatment assignment *n*  
 cluster treatment assignment *n*  
**cold turkey treatment withdrawal** *n*  
**comparator treatment** *n*  
**comparison treatment** *n*  
**complete block treatment design** *n*  
**complete crossover treatment design** *n*  
**complete factorial treatment design** *n*  
**complete treatment assignment block** *n*  
**complete treatment assignment block design** *n*  
**complete treatment crossover** *n*  
**complete treatment crossover design** *n*  
**completely masked treatment assignment** *n*  
**completely randomized treatment design** *n*  
**complex treatment** *n*  
**complex treatment design** *n*  
**concealed treatment assignment** *n*  
**confounded treatment assignment** *n*  
**control treatment** *n*  
**controlled treatment assignment** *n*  
**controlled treatment assignment clinical trial** *n*  
**crossed treatment design** *n*  
**crossed treatment structure** *n*  
**crossed treatments** *n*  
**crossover treatment** *n*  
**crossover treatment design** *n*  
**crossover treatment structure** *n*  
**direct treatment assignment system** *n*  
**double placebo treatment design** *n*  
**double-masked treatment** *n*  
**double-masked treatment assignment** *n*  
**drug treatment** *n*  
 dynamic treatment assignment *n*  
 dynamic treatment assignment schedule *n*  
**effective treatment** *n*  
**elective treatment** *n*  
**envelope treatment assignment** *n*  
**equal treatment assignment** *n*  
**expected treatment assignment ratio** *n*  
**experimental treatment** *n*  
**external treatment effects monitoring committee** *n*  
**factorial treatment design** *n*

- factorial treatment structure** *n*  
**final treatment result** *n*  
**fixed treatment assignment** *n*  
**fixed treatment assignment design** *n*  
**fixed treatment assignment ratio** *n*  
**fixed treatment assignment schedule** *n*  
**free treatment arm** *n*  
 full factorial treatment design *n*  
**Greco-Latin square treatment design** *n*  
**group treatment assignment** *n*  
**haphazard treatment assignment** *n*  
**harmful treatment** *n*  
**heterogeneous treatment effect** *n*  
**homogeneous treatment effect** *n*  
**imbalance minimization treatment assignment** *n*  
**inactive control treatment** *n*  
**inactive treatment** *n*  
**inactive treatment dose** *n*  
**incomplete block treatment design** *n*  
**incomplete crossover treatment design** *n*  
**incomplete factorial treatment design** *n*  
**incomplete treatment assignment block** *n*  
**incomplete treatment assignment block design** *n*  
 independent treatment effects monitoring committee *n*  
**indirect treatment assignment system** *n*  
**ineffective treatment** *n*  
**inferior treatment** *n*  
**interim treatment result** *n*  
**internal treatment effects monitoring committee** *n*  
**Latin square treatment design** *n*  
 level of treatment adherence *n*  
 level of treatment compliance *n*  
**long-term treatment** *n*  
**masked treatment** *n*  
**masked treatment administration** *n*  
**masked treatment assignment** *n*  
**masked treatment assignment schedule** *n*  
**masked treatment effects monitor** *n*  
**masked treatment effects monitoring** *n*  
**masked treatment effects monitoring committee** *n*  
**medical treatment** *n*  
**minimal standard control treatment** *n*  
**minimum likelihood treatment assignment** *n*  
**miracle treatment** *n*  
**mock treatment** *n*  
**mode of treatment** *n*  
**multi-period crossover treatment design** *n*  
**multiple placebo treatment design** *n*  
**negative control treatment** *n*  
**negative treatment effect** *n*  
**net treatment effect** *n*  
**nil treatment** *n*  
**nil treatment control** *n*  
**nil treatment effect** *n*  
**noncrossover treatment design** *n*  
**nonfactorial treatment design** *n*  
**nonmasked treatment assignment** *n*  
**nontreatment** *n*  
**nontreatment control** *n*  
**nonuniform treatment assignment** *n*  
**nonuniform treatment assignment ratio** *n*  
**null treatment** *n*  
**null treatment control** *n*  
**null treatment hypothesis** *n*  
**number adaptive treatment assignment** *n*  
**observation control treatment** *n*  
**observed treatment assignment ratio** *n*  
**observed treatment difference** *n*  
**observed treatment effect** *n*  
**odd-even method of treatment assignment** *n*  
**off-treatment** *adj*  
**on-treatment** *adj*  
**open treatment assignment** *n*  
**open treatment assignment schedule** *n*  
**outcome adaptive random treatment assignment** *n*  
**outcome adaptive treatment assignment** *n*  
**paired treatment design** *n*  
**parallel treatment design** *n*  
**parallel treatment groups** *n*  
**parallel treatment structure** *n*  
 parallel treatments *n*  
 partial factorial treatment design *n*  
**partially masked treatment assignment** *n*  
**patient preference treatment design** *n*  
**patient treatment compliance** *n*  
**permuted block treatment design** *n*  
**physician preference treatment design** *n*  
**physician treatment compliance** *n*  
**placebo treatment** *n*  
**placebo treatment effect** *n*

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placebo-control treatment *n*  
 play-the-winner treatment assignment *n*  
 positive control treatment *n*  
 positive treatment effect *n*  
 post-treatment followup *n*  
 post-treatment followup period *n*  
 post-treatment followup visit *n*  
 preference treatment design *n*  
 prescribed treatment *n*  
 prescribed treatment regimen *n*  
 pretreatment examination *n*  
 pretreatment visit *n*  
 primary treatment comparison *n*  
 random treatment assignment *n*  
 rescue treatment *n*  
 restricted treatment assignment *n*  
 restricted treatment assignment schedule  
*n*  
 route of treatment administration *n*  
 safe and effective treatment *n*  
 secondary treatment comparison *n*  
 sequential treatment *n*  
 sham treatment *n*  
 short-term treatment *n*  
 simple treatment *n*  
 simple treatment assignment *n*  
 simple treatment design *n*  
 single placebo treatment design *n*  
 single-masked treatment *n*  
 single-masked treatment assignment *n*  
 standard control treatment *n*  
 standard medical treatment *n*  
 standard surgical treatment *n*  
 standard treatment *n*  
 step down treatment withdrawal *n*  
 stepped treatment *n*  
 stepped treatment protocol *n*  
 stratified random treatment assignment *n*  
 stratified treatment assignment *n*  
 study treatment *n*  
 study treatment group *n*  
 subgroup treatment difference *n*  
 superior treatment *n*  
 surgical treatment *n*  
 suspension of treatment *n*  
 suspension of treatment protocol *n*  
 symmetrical treatment effects monitoring  
*n*  
 synergistic treatment effect *n*  
 systematic treatment assignment *n*  
 test treatment *n*  
 test-control treatment comparison *n*  
 test-control treatment difference *n*  
 trace control treatment *n*  
 trace treatment *n*  
 trace treatment control *n*  
 treatment *n*  
 treatment adherence *n*  
 treatment adherence level *n*  
 treatment adjustment *n*  
 treatment adjustment followup visit *n*  
 treatment adjustment visit *n*  
 treatment administered *n*  
 treatment administration *n*  
 treatment allocation *n*  
 treatment and followup period *n*  
 treatment and followup stage *n*  
 treatment application and adjustment *n*  
 treatment application and adjustment  
 followup visit *n*  
 treatment application and adjustment visit *n*  
 treatment application followup visit *n*  
 treatment application visit *n*  
 treatment arm *n*  
 treatment assignment *n*  
 treatment assignment block *n*  
 treatment assignment block effect *n*  
 treatment assignment block size *n*  
 treatment assignment blocking interval *n*  
 treatment assignment clinic visit *n*  
 treatment assignment design *n*  
 treatment assignment examination *n*  
 treatment assignment probability *n*  
 treatment assignment process *n*  
 treatment assignment ratio *n*  
 treatment assignment schedule *n*  
 treatment assignment stratum *n*  
 treatment assignment system *n*  
 treatment assignment unit *n*  
 treatment assignment visit *n*  
 treatment break *n*  
 treatment cessation *n*  
 treatment change *n*  
 treatment comparison *n*  
 treatment compliance *n*  
 treatment compliance level *n*  
 treatment compliance measure *n*  
 treatment compliance variable *n*

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**treatment coordinating center (TCC)** *n*  
**treatment cross-contamination** *n*  
**treatment crossover** *n*  
treatment crossover design *n*  
**treatment crossover trial** *n*  
**treatment dependent covariate** *n*  
**treatment design** *n*  
**treatment difference** *n*  
**treatment dispensing system** *n*  
**treatment dosage** *n*  
**treatment dose** *n*  
**treatment effect** *n*  
**treatment effects and performance monitoring committee** *n*  
**treatment effects monitor** *n*  
**treatment effects monitoring** *n*  
**treatment effects monitoring** *v*  
**treatment effects monitoring and analysis committee** *n*  
**treatment effects monitoring committee (TEMC)** *n*  
**treatment effects monitoring report** *n*  
**treatment failure** *n*  
**treatment group** *n*  
**treatment group comparison** *n*  
**treatment hypothesis** *n*  
**treatment identification system** *n*  
**treatment IND** *n*  
**treatment independent covariate** *n*  
**treatment initiation** *n*  
**treatment initiation visit** *n*  
**treatment interaction** *n*  
**treatment investigational new drug** *n*  
**treatment lag** *n*  
**treatment mask** *n*  
**treatment masking** *n*  
**treatment modality, treatment mode** *n*  
treatment monitoring *v*  
treatment monitoring report *n*  
**treatment noncompliance** *n*  
**treatment period** *n*  
**treatment plan** *n*  
treatment preference design *n*  
**treatment prescription** *n*  
**treatment procedure** *n*  
**treatment protocol** *n*  
**treatment protocol suspension** *n*  
**treatment protocol violation** *n*  
**treatment regimen** *n*  
**treatment result** *n*  
**treatment result mask** *n*  
**treatment schedule** *n*  
**treatment side effect** *n*  
**treatment site** *n*  
**treatment structure** *n*  
**treatment suspension** *n*  
**treatment switch** *n*  
**treatment termination** *n*  
**treatment trial** *n*  
**treatment unit** *n*  
**treatment variable** *n*  
**treatment withdrawal** *n*  
**treatment withdrawal trial** *n*  
**treatment-related bias** *n*  
**treatment-related feedback bias** *n*  
**treatment-related followup bias** *n*  
**treatment-related selection bias** *n*  
**triple-masked treatment** *n*  
**unbalanced treatment assignment block** *n*  
**unbalanced treatment assignment block design** *n*  
**unbalanced treatment design** *n*  
**uncontrolled treatment assignment** *n*  
**uncrossed treatment groups** *n*  
uncrossed treatments *n*  
**uniform treatment assignment** *n*  
**uniform treatment assignment ratio** *n*  
**unit treatment assignment** *n*  
**unmasked treatment** *n*  
**unmasked treatment assignment** *n*  
**unmasked treatment effects monitor** *n*  
**unmasked treatment effects monitoring** *n*  
**unmasked treatment effects monitoring committee** *n*  
**unrestricted treatment assignment** *n*  
**unrestricted treatment assignment schedule** *n*  
**urn model treatment assignment** *n*  
**within-person treatment comparison** *n*  
within-person treatment design *n*