**Practical**

**Measures of Effect & Precision**

**In the below scenarios, try to find the answer that fits best; discuss your ideas in small groups.**

**Scenario 1**: A large pharmaceutical company is marketing a new pill to prevent hospitalizations in outpatients newly diagnosed with COVID-19. In their trial, the pill reduced the relative risk of hospitalization by 40%. When looking at the (mostly American) population, the Table 1 in the paper, you notice that the median age was 74 years and 87% of patients had a BMI > 35.

Your practice is located on the 5th floor of an urban building without elevator, and being a very good general practitioner, only 2 of the 730 patients you tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 had to be hospitalized so far.

Would you prescribe new pill to your patients (for medical reasons)?

**Scenario 2**: As a resident on a COVID-19 ward in a tertiary hospital, you read a new study of a treatment that showed a mortality of 23.3% in the intervention group with the drug, compared to 26.2% in the control group with an RR of 0.82 (95% CI 0.72 to 0.94).

The population you are treating has a current mortality of 7% without the treatment. How many patients would you have to treat (approximately) with the new drug to save one life?

**Scenario 3**: During your patient visits on the local tertiary care COVID-19 ward, another resident who works in a subspecialty, that also treats COVID-19 patients, urges you to use a new treatment for your patients because the results have shown a significant reduction (p < 0.001) in viral load. Will you use the treatment, or do you have further questions?