JOHNS HOPKINS
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SCHOOL of PUBLIC HEALTH

Lecture 10a: Practice Problems

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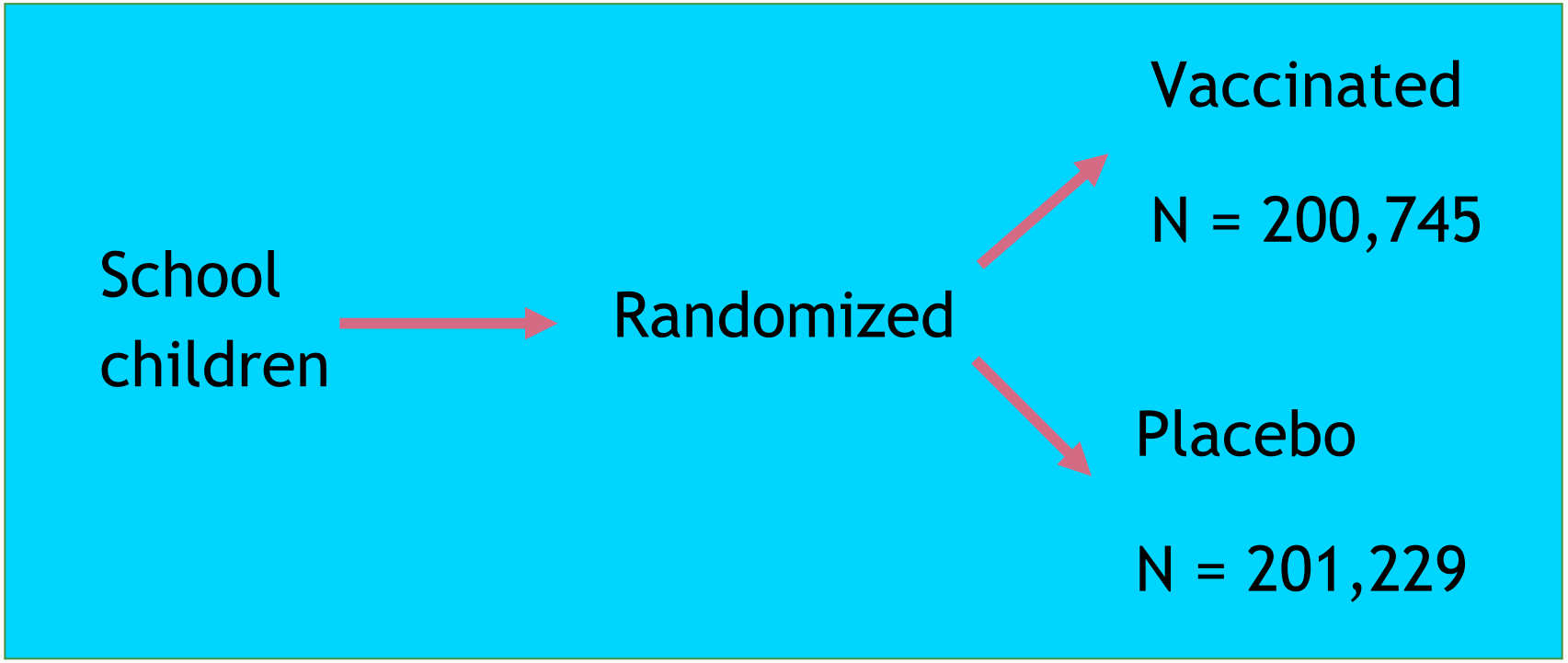
Practice Problems

1. Can you explain confounding to a classmate or other acquaintance? Can you think of an example to help with your explanation?

Practice Problems

2. Consider a large, randomized study such as the Salk polio vaccine trial



Practice Problems

2. How does randomization help to ensure that the outcome/ treatment group relationship observed is not confounded by any factors known or unknown? More specifically, what part of the necessary conditions for confounding does randomization eliminate?

Practice Problems

3. Suppose a study were performed to assess the relationship between a diet choice (vegan, lacto-ovo vegetarian, neither) and cholesterol level. Subjects were not randomized to a dietary group. Before interpreting the relationship, can you name some potential factors for which it would be advisable to control?