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Chapter 1: Why Study Statistics?

Multiple Choice Questions

- 1. Learning about statistics:
 - a. Is risky.
 - *b. Will help one avoid being misled by those who misuse statistics as a way to propagandize their political agenda.
 - c. Is important despite its lack of relevance to practice.
 - d. Can interfere with one's capacity to be a warm, compassionate practitioner.

ANS: B PG: 7

- 2. Learning about statistics:
 - a. Will help you be more effective in marshalling data to advocate for a new policy or program.
 - b. Will help you see through the misleading uses of statistics by your adversaries and to show others how their use of those statistics is misleading.
 - c. Will help you evaluate the effectiveness of your own practice.
 - *d. All of these.

ANS: D PG: 4-8

3. Which of the following statements best depicts research findings on the effectiveness of interventions that have been popular among helping professionals and that have seemed theoretically sound?

- * a. Some were found to be ineffective
 - b. None were found to be harmful
 - c. Earning a professional degree assures that your efforts to help people will be effective
 - d. All of these

ANS: A PG: 4

4. Suppose a newspaper reports that the average number of times students in your college or university engage in binge drinking during the academic year is twice. What is appropriate to conclude?

a. The typical student binge drinks approximately twice per year

- b. Most students binge drink approximately twice per year.
- c. Both of these are appropriate conclusions.
- *d. None of these.

ANS: D PG: 6-7

Stats test bank Ch. 1

5. Which of the following is/are good reasons for human service practitioners to learn about statistics?

- a. Some interventions have been found to be harmful.
- b. Professional ethics.
- c. Compassion for clients.
- *d. All of these.

ANS: D PG: 4-7

- 6. Which of the following is/are true about statistics?
 - a. Nobody misuses statistics to mislead people.
 - b. Statistics are irrelevant to clinical levels of practice.
 - *c. Statistics can help you evaluate the effectiveness of your own practice.
 - d. All of these.

ANS: C PG: 4-7

- 7. If the average annual income for 10 people who are eating lunch together is \$100,000, then:
 - a. The typical person at the table earns \$100,000 per year.
 - *b. It is conceivable that none of them earn \$100,000 per year.
 - c. Most people at the table earn approximately \$100,000 per year.
 - d. None of them earns more than \$900,000 per year or less than \$20,000 per year.

ANS: B PG: 5-6

- 8. Which of the following statements is **NOT** true about learning about statistics/:
 - a. Statistics help us to summarize an otherwise overwhelming mass of data.
 - b. Learning about statistics can help make you a more effective advocate for policies you think are desirable and against policies that you think are undesirable.
 - c. They are not relevant to administrative levels of practice.
 - d. Understanding statistics is an important aspect of evidence-based practice.

ANS: C PG: 4-7

True-False Questions

T 1. The most important reason why practitioners should learn about statistics is that they want to help people.

PG: 4

T 2. Understanding statistics makes one a more compassionate practitioner.

Statistics for Evidence Based Practice and Evaluation 3rd Edition Rubin Test Bank

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PG: 5, 7

T 3. Keeping current with and critically appraising practice related studies and basing one's practice on evidence-based knowledge makes one a more ethical practitioner.

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PG: 5
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- F 4. Because anyone can manipulate and distort statistics to support whatever point they are trying to make, it is best to ignore statistics rather than understand them.
- PG: 7
- F 5. Learning about statistics pertains primarily to levels of practice dealing with policy analysis, and is of much less relevance to clinical practice.

PG: 4-6

Essays

- 1. In light of the type of practice you think you might want to engage in as a professional practitioner, explain how understanding statistics can make you a more compassionate, ethical, and effective practitioner.
- 2. Explain how, in light of the possibility of extremely atypical cases, just reporting an average can be misleading.
- 3. Discuss why understanding statistics is an important part of evidence-based practice.