(52) JF Bithell and R Coppi (eds) (1981)

Perspectives in Medical Statistics: proceedings of the European Symposium on Medical

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Aims

The members of the Organizing Committee for the European Symposium on Medical Statistics had a clear objective in view. They aimed to provide expositions of some of the current developments in medical statistics in a form which would be readily comprehensible to non-statisticians working in epidemiology, clinical medicine and other health fields, and to statisticians who are unfamiliar with some of the recent advances in medical statistics. There was a good deal of emphasis in the programme on the opportunities for collaboration between statisticians and other scientists, and the restriction in the main to European activities, while somewhat arbitrary from a scientific point of view, had the effect of bringing together participants from neighbouring countries who perhaps hear less about each others' work than might be expected. The present book bears many of the characteristics of the Symposium. It is not a textbook in medical statistics for readers with no previous introduction to the subject. Nor is it a vehicle for technical communications in statistical methodology directed towards the statistical experts. Rather it provides a survey of recently developed techniques, of work in progress and of ideas in the course of development, over a very wide area of medical applications (Foreword, page ix).

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