John Hanson

I was born in England, near Manchester, and went to high school in Edmonton, Alberta. I attended the University of Alberta, and graduated with a BSc in Mathematics in 1964 and an MSc in Mathematical Statistics in 1968. After graduation, the Government of Alberta employed me for three years, with the Division of Human Resources. The duties of the position required assisting with the design and statistical analysis of educational, social and economic research studies. In 1972 I became employed with the Alberta Cancer Board at the Cross Cancer Institute in Edmonton, and I am with the organization at the present time.

I collaborate and consult with clinicians, basic scientists, epidemiologists, and behavioural scientists at the Cross Cancer Institute on a variety of cancer related research projects and studies. My duties include assisting with the design of clinical trials, sample size estimation,

How do we use writing in math?

As a biostatistician, writing is an important aspect of my work, since my job entails providing assistance with the design of medical research projects and the statistical analysis of research data. I assist with the preparation of research proposals, in particular with the description of the research design, the sample size calculations and the statistical methods to be used. Writing is important here, as these items have to be carefully and clearly explained. This is also true when it comes to describing the results of the statistical analysis of the study data in reports or for publication.

and the statistical analysis and interpretation of clinical trial and basic research data. I also participate in the statistical analysis of clinical outcomes and epidemiological studies using the population based Alberta Cancer Registry. I aid and guide research project staff and their assistants on the collection and management of research data, and the statistical analysis, interpretation and the presentation of research results. This includes the review and editing of research manuscripts in preparation for publication. The job requires the familiarity with and application of a variety of research related computer applications, such as SAS and Splus, and the development of statistical methods and data analysis techniques.

I enjoy golfing and skiing, and following cricket and soccer. I also like reading, listen to music and playing bridge.

I use math to solve statistical and probability problems and to write computer programming programs to generate numerical solutions for statistical models.