

# Review – Epidemiologic Design

- Types of study design
  - Descriptive Studies
    - Ecologic study (correlational study)
    - Case report and case series
  - Analytical (with a comparison group)
    - Observational Studies
      - Case-control studies
      - Cohort studies
      - Cross-sectional surveys
    - Experimental/Intervention Studies

# Review



- Which study design (generally) more expensive? Prospective or retrospective cohort?
- What type of study design best when time between exposure and disease is
  - Short?
  - Long?

# RCT and Cohort Study: Differences and Similarities

## ■ Differences

- Selection of exposure is dictated by the study investigator in a trial
- Trials cannot be performed for potentially harmful substance\*

## ■ Similarities

- Start with exposed and unexposed groups
- Follow them to see who develops the outcome (disease) and who does not.

\* Is it ethical in a cohort study to follow people who have an exposure (e.g., smoking) to see if they develop a disease?