



SAS

“For The Beginner”

Introduction

- **Currently employed with the Alberta Cancer Board**
 - I am a part of the ICCN (Integrated Cancer Care Network) team, within the division of PHI (Population Health and Information)
 - Work with OpTxManager Data (Which is the ACB's electronic patient record); consists of over 10, 000 tables
 - I am a Programmer; currently creating scripts to QA a new project called WED
- **I mainly use Transact SQL**
 - I have just begun SAS programming

The Little SAS Book

a primer Second Edition by Lora D. Delwiche and Susan J. Slaughter

- **Read the introduction to SAS**
 - SAS Products
 - Operating environments
 - Licensing SAS product

- **Introduction ix**
 - What this book covers
 - What this book does not cover
 - Example: You must know something about your local computer and operating environment.

The Little SAS Book Cont'd

- **Flag pages that are important for you.**
 - Example: Page 78 covers formatting (date/time)
 - **Page 80** – Has a table with selected date informats, Functions, and formats
- **Review all the windows within SAS, know what they do.**

Example:

 - In the Explorer Window, you can manage your SAS files, which are stored in SAS data libraries.

Creating Cheat Sheets

- **Saving code as a cheat sheet**
 - Naming each script to reflect what you would need.

EXAMPLE: Compare

```
proc compare base=People compare=females out=query.regdem outnoequal
  outbase outcomp
  nomisscomp allstats;
  id ID_no; /*doesn't work if you have multiple ID numbers/*
  var ID_no, Gender; /* the variables that will be compared in the
  dataset/*
  title "People_1 compare";
run;
```

*** You walk in hallways and up the stairs. Rows then columns.
This is what Row_People*Column_Gender means;**

```
proc freq data=d1;
tables Row_People*Column_Gender /missing norow nocol nocum ; * I
have to tell it where to look, other wise it will look for everything. ;
run;
```

Cheat Sheets cont'd

- Saving all include statements for your libraries.
 - Example: `%include"d:\data\people\macros\annual.report.formats.sas"`
 - Easy to copy and paste into a new script
- **Always comment your code line by line so when you read it a month from now, you'll know what it's supposed to do.**

Summary

- Get a Reference Book
- Flag frequently used pages
- Create Cheat Sheets
- Comment your Code