

## Homework Solutions

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#### Review Exercise 47

- (a) If the men were placed into the different groups and told how much fiber to eat, then this is an experiment. On the other hand, if they were allowed to eat as much fiber as they wanted and then were placed into the groups according to how much fiber they were in fact eating, then this is an observational study. If it is an observational study, then it is a prospective study. They first observed the explanatory variable (amount of fiber) and later observed the response variable (heart attacks).
- (b) The results could certainly be extended to *all* healthy dentists, veterinarians, pharmacists, etc. It is questionable whether they could be extended to unhealthy dentists, etc., or all male professionals, or to healthy males who are not dentists, etc., or to women.
- (c) These other factors are *confounding* variables.