

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Volume 18 Issue 1 2023

DOI: 10.21315/aos2023.1801.LE01

### ARTICLE INFO

Submitted: 25/05/2023

Accepted: 25/05/2023

Online: 26/06/2023

# An Enhanced Version of Sample Size Calculator, Scalex SP

Lin Naing

*Pengiran Anak Puteri Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkihah (PAPRSB)  
Institute of Health Sciences, Universiti Brunei Darussalam,  
Jalan Tungku Link, Gadong BE3119, Brunei Darussalam*

\*Corresponding author: naing61@gmail.com

**To cite this article:** Naing L (2023). An enhanced version of sample size calculator, Scalex SP. *Arch Orofac Sci*, 18(1): 71–72. <https://doi.org/10.21315/aos2023.1801.LE01>

**To link to this article:** <https://doi.org/10.21315/aos2023.1801.LE01>

Previously in *Archives of Orofacial Sciences* Vol. 1, Naing *et al.* (2006) had presented an informative article that discussed practical concerns related to determining sample size, and also presented an easy-to-use, free sample size calculator called “Sample Size Calculator for Prevalence Studies, SSCPS version 1.0.3.” which was made available to the public at the time of publication.

The authors have recently introduced an enhanced version of the calculator, known as Scalex SP version 1.0.1, which boasts improved functionalities and additional features. A notable article titled “Sample size calculation for prevalence studies using Scalex and ScalaR calculators” (Naing *et al.*, 2022) was published, providing valuable insights into the calculator. Readers can access and download these calculators for free at: <https://sites.google.com/view/sr-ln/ssc>.

The enhanced Scalex SP calculator offers several noteworthy features compared to its predecessor, the SSCPS calculator:

1. **Interactive Step-by-Step Guidance:** Scalex SP now provides users with a user-friendly interface that guides them through the calculation process in three simple steps. To further assist users, the authors and developers have created a YouTube video tutorial accessible at: <https://youtu.be/eAwWtMHXrfY>.

2. **Anticipated 95% confidence intervals (CIs):** The calculator utilises estimation inferential statistical analysis to determine sample sizes for prevalence studies. It presents users with 95% CIs for various sample sizes, enabling informed decision-making when selecting an appropriate sample size.
3. **Incorporation of Anticipated Loss (Attrition):** Scalex SP takes into account anticipated loss or attrition, adjusting the sample size calculation accordingly.
4. **Comprehensive Sample Size Report:** One of the standout features of this calculator is its ability to generate a comprehensive report of the calculated sample size. This report can be easily copied and utilised in publications or reports, ensuring accurate and complete sample size reporting—a significant improvement over the frequent occurrence of incomplete or incorrect sample size calculations in published articles.

Given these significant enhancements, we are confident that the new calculator will greatly reduce instances of incorrect sample size calculations and incomplete or erroneous reporting. Consequently, we would like to inform the journal and its readers about this updated calculator, as it can greatly benefit their research endeavours.

## REFERENCES

- Naing L, Winn T, Rusli BN (2006). Practical issues in calculating the sample size for prevalence studies. *Arch Orofac Sci*, **1**: 9–14.
- Naing L, Rusli BN, Rahman HA and Naing YT (2022). Sample size calculation for prevalence studies using Scalex and ScalaR calculators. *BMC Med Res Methodol*, **22**: 209. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12874-022-01694-7>