**Study aims**

To evaluate the association between students’ grades in all years of study and whether they were admitted via the PREMED track or the regular direct track.

To evaluate the association between students’ grades in the final examinations and whether they were admitted via the PREMED track or the regular direct track.

To evaluate the association between choosing the MD/PhD program and admission via PREMED or the regular direct track.

**Study hypotheses**

We hypothesized that during the first years of study, students in the PREMED track had higher grades than students in the direct medical track, because of the competitive nature of the PREMED program and their wish to graduate in the top percentile and join the medical program at the end of the first three years.

We hypothesized that after the PREMED students joined the regular medical class, there were no further differences in students’ achievements, including the final examinations grades.

We hypothesized that students in the PREMED track were more involved in research and were more likely to join the MD/PhD program than students in the direct medical program.