

Question for February 10, 2004

6) An investigator of Health Insurance programs wants to compare the mean length of stay in the hospital for two types of programs, fee-for-service insurance (FFS) and health maintenance organizations (HMO). All patients studied were being treated for congestive heart failure. Examination of 154 patients showed that the mean length of stay for HMO patients (n=39) was 4.95 days and the mean for FFS patients (n=115) was 5.32 days. What type of test should be used to compare these means?