**Interpretation of the relative risk ratio (RRR)**

To understand how to interpret RRR, it may be helpful to go through an example [23]. In this case, our outcomes will be no disease (base outcome), mild disease, and severe disease. Our predictor variable will be exposure to a toxin. For probabilities of each outcome, refer to S1 Table. The relative risk (RR) for a given outcome *i* if exposed to the toxin is calculated as follows, where the notation P(outcome *i* ***|*** exposed) signifies the probability of outcome *i* if exposed:

  (1)

For example, the RR for mild disease if exposed is the following:

  (2)

The RRR for a given outcome *i* then is the ratio of the RR of outcome *i* if exposed and the RR of outcome *i* if unexposed:

  (3)

In the case of mild disease, the RRR is the following:

 (4)

The RRR of 3.33 signifies that the RR of mild disease (compared to no disease) increases 3.33 times with exposure to the toxin.