Group sequential designs that have provisions for data monitoring and interim analyses are now widely used in confirmatory Phase III trials, especially those with survival endpoints. The past decade witnessed important methodological advances in the design of group sequential trials and in the primary and secondary analyses of the data following a group sequential trial. The course gives an introduction to these advances and to open-source software packages available at the Center for Innovative Study Design website at the School of Medicine at Stanford University. It also provides an overview of related chapters in the monograph "Sequential Experimentation in Clinical Trials: Design and Analysis," by Jay Bartroff, Tze Leung Lai and Mei-Chiung Shih, Springer, 2011.

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