

## UNIT 6 LESSON 5 CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY

Conditional Probability – probability of an event occurring given that another event has already occurred.

Multiplication

### General Multiplication Rule

For any two events  $A$  and

$$P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A) * P(B | A)$$

$$\text{or } P(A \text{ and } B) = P(B) * P(A | B)$$

where  $P(B | A)$  and  $P(A | B)$  are the conditional probabilities.

Rule:

Ex 1) Select two cards from the standard deck of 52 cards without replacement. Find the probability of selecting two kings.

Probability of selecting the first king:  $\frac{4}{52}$

Probability of selecting the second king:  $\frac{3}{51}$

Based on the Multiplication Rule:  $\frac{4}{52} * \frac{3}{51} = \frac{12}{2652} = 0.0045$

Ex 2) The probability that a particular knee surgery is successful is 0.85.  
Find the probability that three knee surgeries are successful.

Three successful surgeries =  $0.85 * 0.85 * 0.85 = 0.614$

Ex 3) A committee consists of four women and three men. The committee will randomly select two people to attend a conference in Hawaii. Find the probability that both are women.

Probability that the first is woman:  $\frac{4}{7}$

Probability that the second is woman:  $\frac{3}{6}$

Based on the Multiplication Rule:  $\frac{4}{7} * \frac{3}{6} = \frac{12}{42} = 0.28 = 28\%$