

Review of: "Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery Clinical Quality: A Network-DEA approach"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear authors,

This paper is exciting from my point of view. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in its review. Network DEA is not a common method for measuring the performances of clinical settings. Well done. However, I have some suggestions that might improve the general quality of the paper.

Suggestion #1

134 million adverse events occur each year due to unsafe care, resulting in 2.6 million deaths. 4-17% of patients experience poor results whereby 44 –50 percent of these events are preventable. Up to 15% of hospital activity and expenditures are spent for the treatment of direct sequelae of patient harm, resulting in an annual economic burden of €21 million in European Union countries and \$ 1 trillion in the USA.

Comment: These sentences should be rewritten without a number at the beginning but with a word. In addition, at the end of the sentences, a reference should be related to mentioned data.

Since the same issue repeated, I need to reference APA style rules:

APA Style

According to the Publication Manual, use words to express any number that begins a sentence, title, or text heading. Whenever possible, reword the sentence to avoid beginning with a number (126).

Examples:

- Ten participants answered the questionnaire.
- Forty-eight percent of the sample showed an increase; 2% showed no change.

The general rule governing APA style on the use of numbers is to use figures to express numbers 10 and above and words to express numbers below 10" (APA, 2001, p. 122). This general rule applies to cardinal numbers (whole counting numbers) and their ordinal counterparts (first through ninth) (128). Figures---numerals---are used with all other numbers.

Reference.

Suggestion #2

Evidence-based medical guidelines, clinical pathways and standards, which are the main components of clinical quality, are used in determining the structure, process and outcome measures to be used. Indicators are used as a method of monitoring and assessing clinical quality. By using indicators, compliance with evidence-based guidelines and standards in different aspects of the service is evaluated, and information is obtained at an institutional scale. By using indicators, the clinical quality level of the institution is determined in the area where the measurement is made, and the obtained measurement result allows institutional comparisons. Indicators can focus on disease-specific or general...

Comment: Same here. Too much information without reference.

Suggestion #3

NDEA which considers the network with distinct stages and interactions and can examine sub-processes and sub-inputs and outputs of each process has been developed and also started to be used in healthcare research.

Comment: Ok. We can suppose what NDEA is. However, it is essential to explain this abbreviation as it is made with DEA, a couple of sentences above.

Suggestion #4

Figure 1. Two-Stage Network Process

Is this figure made by authors or borrowed

Suggestion #5.

Please use (.) as a decimal separator.

Suggestion #6.

Please use \$ before the number.

Suggestion #7.

134 million adverse events occur each year due to unsafe care,

Comment: Rewrite!

In conclusion, this is a very interesting paper that needs significant improvements.