

Review of: "How many papers are published each week reporting on trials of interventions involving behavioural aspects of health?"

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This is an easy to read, well written article describing the number of hours that may reasonably be expected in order to fully become familiar with the contents of behavioural papers.

As the authors acknowledge, different people using different data points and a different definition of what is and isn't a behavioural science paper, may well come to a different estimate; this is not necessarily a problem in that the authors do not purport to have the definitive answer to this question. The value of this work rests on the fact that it opens up the conversation of just how involved behavioural science research can be and therefore puts the idea out there for a conversation to start.

I would have liked to have seen a somewhat stronger answer to the 'So what?' questions a critic may ask here. So what that it costs XXX? Other science papers may be as or more expensive. What makes behavioural science papers a special case that warrants the writing of an, otherwise totally engaging and worthwhile, piece of writing?

Other than that, I think the paper makes a great contribution to academic thinking in that it starts a conversation that we should have perhaps started many years ago!

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