

Review of: "Length of stay of patients in Acute Medicine Units at the Royal Hospital, Sultanate of Oman in one month"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This study is about the examination of LOS in one acute medical unit. Although LOS is an important quality indicator, without the necessary information (the average LOS before vs. after the establishment of AMU), it is difficult to tell whether 4.5 days of LOS is a good or a bad indicator. A direct comparison of LOS with other hospitals (in other countries) is a bad practice, given the existence of random variations in health care services and delivery (e.g., type of treatment, diagnosis, comorbid conditions, physician density, population size, etc.). Also, a shorter LOS (or a similar one with other hospitals) does not necessarily indicate one hospital is better.

The presentation of LOS alone provides little value to this study and little information to the readers. Additional data on the characteristics of patients admitted to the AMU, followed by inferential statistical analyses, might add some value to this research work.

At this moment, this work is more suitable for a departmental report than a publishable academic research paper.