

# Review of: "Public health efficiency and well-being in Italian provinces"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

## General concept comments

I have a few minor suggestions that I hope the authors find useful.

I feel that the paper lacks a certain level of rigorousness because of poor grammatical construction, which necessitate major revision. The paper is full of awkward stylistic formulations, which make it difficult to follow the authors' ideas.

My first impression is that the paper needs a thorough proofreading and copyediting. I recommend the authors to have their manuscript reviewed by a native English language speaker.

Please avoid using acronyms and initials; write terms out fully.

Use third-person perspective only (no "my" "I" or "our" referents).

Use past tense when discussing the procedure and results as well as other researchers' procedures and results.

## Introduction

The objective is extensive and very wordy. It is also written differently throughout the manuscript (see abstract for instance). Please be consistent. You have to include and describe the variables included in the analysis.

Please delete **D. M.** in D. M. Smith (1973) arg....

## Methods - Results

Please include the "protocol number" attesting that the study was approved by the Institutional Review Board / Human Subjects Committee. Inclusion and exclusion criteria?.....

And participants permissions?

In the section "Description of dimensions and variables", the choice of measures is not very clear.

A zero should not be inserted before a decimal fraction when the number cannot be greater than 1. For example,  $p < 0.05$  should be written as " $p < .05$ ." Continues in the same way!

Typically, if the exact p value is less than .001, you can merely state  $p < .001$ .

Underline the limitations of your work.

The Discussion is consistent.

### **Conclusions**

Unfortunately, the authors still did not discuss why the research question is important. What can we learn from the results of this study

Please follow APA standard clearly in tables.