Qeios

Peer Review

Review of: "Negative Risks in Academic Research Projects: A Retrospective Analysis of Data from a Convenience Sample of Hundreds of Research Team Members"

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This is an interesting article based on a study of the risks of academic research projects in the context of project management practices. The methodology of the article is retrospective analysis; although due to the method, descriptive data is not available on the various participants. In terms of suggestions for improvement, the following recommendations are provided:

Has the author considered how robust management processes, project governance arrangements, and other mechanisms such as having a PMO (project management office) can help to ensure effective risk management practices are adopted? This can be equally applicable for all types of projects, including academic research projects.

Can a diagram be provided to show the main stages of the method?

How were the various data analysed in the study?

Can some references be provided for studies that have adopted a similar method?

Based on the findings, could some form of tool or framework be provided to help practitioners consider the risks of academic projects (basically a diagrammatic version of the text in the last paragraph of the discussion section)? This could be a conceptual framework, or even a list of priority areas to be considered when undertaking a risk assessment for academic research projects.

It would be useful to have details on future research areas provided.

But overall, this is a useful article with insightful findings.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.