

Review of: "Associations between ICU-days and patient experiences and perceptions of clinical research in intensive care units: a mediation analysis"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This study gives us insight into patient experiences and perceptions of clinical research in intensive care units (ICU) in the UK. Complete and exhaustive analysis of individual items from publicly available survey data was reported. The study improves our knowledge on the perception and experiences participants have on clinical research.

Nonetheless, the authors failed to give us more details on how the data was collected: was the questionnaire used validated?? Was it reliable?? When was data collected? at the end of ICU stay or on admission? Were patients sufficiently well to answer the various questions of the survey??. Even if a link is given to the original source of data used, the authors should make this clear in their paper.

Moreover, It is said in the section on data source that the survey was administered to patients, relatives, and ICU staff. In the final analysis, what proportion of the final sample were patients, relatives, and ICU staff? Were they included at all?

Authors should attempt to clarify these methodological aspects as this will improve the quality of their paper.

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