

Review of: "Mediating Role of Outsourcing on The Relationship Between Lean Manufacturing Practices and Profitability"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Major Comments:

Theoretical Framework and Conceptual Clarity:

The theoretical framework linking lean manufacturing practices, outsourcing, and profitability needs further elaboration. How these constructs are theoretically connected? What is the rationale for proposing outsourcing as a mediator between lean practices and profitability? The manuscript should provide a clear conceptual foundation to guide readers through the proposed relationships.

Literature Review:

The literature review is somewhat shallow. More recent and relevant sources should be included to establish the current state of research in this area. This will help place the study within the context of existing knowledge and theories.

Methodology:

The manuscript mentions the use of quantitative analysis, but the specific methods are not described. What type of quantitative analysis will be employed? Regression analysis is likely, given the research question, but details on variables, data sources, and measurement scales need to be provided.

Data Collection and Measurement:

How will the variables of lean manufacturing practices, outsourcing, and profitability be measured? Are there established scales or indices that will be used? This information is crucial for ensuring the validity and reliability of the study's findings.

Sampling Strategy and Generalizability:

The manuscript needs to provide clear details about the sampling strategy. What type of organizations will be included? How will they be selected? It's important to discuss potential limitations in terms of the sample's representativeness and the generalizability of the findings.