Jundishapur Journal of Chronic Disease Care
Volume 9 · Issue 4 · e104180

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Post-Operative Symptoms and Complications in Patients Having Undergone Coronary Artery Bypass Graft in Hamadan: A Descriptive Cross-Sectional Study

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SUBMITTED	REVISED	ACCEPTED	DOI
29 Apr 2020	22 Sep 2020	9 Oct 2020	10.5812/jjcdc.104180

About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

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1 Original submission

1 comment · 18 Jun 2020

Referee 1 Reviewer

MAJOR REVISION 18 Jun 2020

1. The title lacks appeal and novelty.
2. Given that the symptoms and problems of these patients are already established in the references, the rationale and need for the study have not been explained well.
3. It is not stated that this research has been conducted in Hamadan or even in Iran.
4. In the findings, the author examines the relationship between demographic characteristics and problems, but this variable is not mentioned in the title.
5. Given the study type, the year and location should be stated in the title.
6. The writing needs editing. Some sentences follow Persian writing conventions.
7. The references are outdated, particularly those concerning statistics.
8. Given the study type, no statistics are provided for Iran or even for Hamadan, where the study was conducted. Why was it necessary for the researcher to conduct this study in Hamadan?
9. Indicate the differences between global and Iranian statistics and those for Hamadan, with an emphasis on the problems.
10. What challenge did the researcher encounter regarding these patients' problems that made it necessary to conduct this research?
11. In paragraphs referring to many studies or most studies, only one reference is cited, which is incorrect. Contrary to this sentence in the text, "In some studies, it has been shown that 75% of patients undergoing CABG experience post-discharge problems in the first 14 days after the surgery (2)."
The author assessed problems one month after discharge. Why?
12. At the end of the problem statement, the study objective is not clearly stated, and the study's conclusion is stated in advance.
13. The inclusion criterion of age over 18 is inconsistent with the mean age of 60.
14. According to your statistics, 60 percent were nonsmokers, but the conclusion emphasizes education on this issue. Why?
15. When discussing the characteristics in the Discussion, relevant evidence should be provided and the results interpreted. Some of the evidence is inconsistent with the findings, and the interpretation and discussion are not well reported.
16. The study limitations / conflicts of interest / novelty and new findings of this study, given the many studies in this field and the existing references / have not been stated.

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Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Reviewers' Comments:

Reviewer 1:
Dear Author,
Thank you for your submitting the nice manuscript with the title: Post-operative symptoms and complications in patients undergoing Coronary artery bypass graft. I think this study is an important research in the chronic diseases but need some revision before publication.

-what is your study method? Correlational? Case and control? Descriptive? You can this in the title
A descriptive cross-sectional study. The study type was added in title. thanks.

-In the abstract, you should correct P-value as < or > not =. Thanks, corrected.
- In the introduction, you should explain about research gap and problem clearly. Thanks, added.
-In the method, I think you should explain about sampling strategies and inclusion and exclusion Eritrea. Thanks, added.
-In results you should correct P-value as < or > not. Thank you, corrected.
Is there any novelty in your study? Please describe it in the discussion. Please mention the limitation and strong points of your study. Is there any novelty in your study? Please describe it in the discussion. The discussion was revised.
-There are some spelling and grammatical errors in the text. Please correct them. Thanks, corrected.
-end of study you should write acknowledgment include code of ethics and your funds, author contribution, conflict of interest. Thanks, added.
Truly yours.

Reviewer 2:
1- The title lacks attractiveness and novelty. Corrected, thank you

2- Given that the symptoms and problems of these patients are well established in the references, the reason and necessity have not been well stated.
Items were added to the end of the Introduction and the Discussion, thank you

3- The conduct of this research in the city of Hamadan and even in Iran has not been stated. Added, thank you.
4- In the findings, the author has examined the relationship between the demographic characteristics and the problems, but the variable has not been mentioned in the title. This item was one of the research objectives, which was not stated in order to prevent the title from becoming too long.
5- The year and place should be stated in the title according to the type of study. Added, thank you.
6- In terms of writing style, it needs editing. Some sentences have been written according to Persian writing conventions.
Corrected, thank you.

7- The references are old, especially regarding statistics. Corrected, thank you.

8- Given the type of study, statistics about Iran and even the city of Hamadan, where the study was conducted, have not been mentioned. Why was it necessary for the researcher to conduct this study in the city of Hamadan? Added at the end of the Introduction, thank you.
9- Mention the difference between the statistics of the world and Iran and the statistics of Hamadan, with emphasis on the problems. Added to the Introduction, thank you.
10- What challenge did the researcher face regarding the problems of these patients that made it necessary to conduct this research?
Given the lack of full familiarity with the post-discharge problems of these patients, particularly in the city of Hamadan, this study was conducted so that appropriate post-discharge education content based on the problems of these patients could be prepared, effective education could be provided, and post-discharge complications and problems in the patients could be reduced. These items were mentioned at the end of the Discussion and the Introduction. Thank you.

11- In paragraphs that refer to many studies / or most studies, only one reference has been written, and this writing style is wrong. Contrary to this sentence in the text In some studies, it has been shown that 75% of patients undergoing CABG experience post-discharge problems in the first 14 days after the surgery (2). The author has taken one month after discharge as the criterion for examining the problems; why?
In some studies it was one month and in others 14 days; the longer time interval was considered. The above reference was corrected. Thank you.

12- At the end of the problem statement, the aim of the study has not been well stated, and the result of the study has been stated in advance. Corrected, thank you.
13- Age above 18 in the inclusion criteria is inconsistent with the mean of 60 years.
The inclusion criterion of 18 years was considered so that no patient would be missed and all individuals undergoing coronary artery bypass graft surgery would enter the study. In the end, this mean of 60 years was obtained.

14- According to your statistics, 60 percent were non-smokers, but the conclusion emphasises education on this matter; why?
For patients after coronary artery bypass graft surgery, a rate of 40 percent is very high and can lead to occlusion of the grafted vessels.

15- In the discussion, when the characteristics are discussed, relevant evidence should be presented and the result interpreted. Some of the documentation is not consistent with the findings, and the interpretation and discussion have not been well reported. Corrected, thank you.

16- The limitations of the study / conflict of interest / novelty and new results in this study, given the many studies in this field and the existing references / have not been stated.
Added to the Discussion, thank you.

2 Revision 1

3 comments · 9 Sep 2020 – 15 Sep 2020

Referee 1 Reviewer

MAJOR REVISION 9 Sep 2020

1- The article's innovation is not mentioned.
2- What is the difference between the findings of the article and the existing references?
3- References for the statistics must be primary and recent.
4 - The existing challenge is not clearly described.
The author should mention the shortcomings of the existing references.
5- This text must be edited for language.
6- The sample size is not sufficient to determine the frequency of complications.
7- The results are not well interpreted.

Associate Editor

MINOR REVISION 15 Sep 2020

Dear Author,
Please address the reviewers' comments more carefully.
Thank you

Editor-in-Chief

MINOR REVISION 15 Sep 2020

Dear Author,
Thank you for revising your manuscript. Based on our reviewers' comments, your manuscript needs revisions in some parts. Please revise it and respond to all reviewers' comments.
With the Best.

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Revision 2

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Reviewers' Comments:

Reviewer 1:

1- Article innovation is not mentioned.
Most studies conducted on patients undergoing CABG have investigated the mortality rate. A few studies have been conducted on the symptoms experienced by patients. While these patients often experience multiple symptoms after heart surgery. Although symptoms usually decrease over time, they may remain for months after discharge (paragraph 4 Background). Given that there was a gap in this area, this research focused on this issue.

2- What is the difference between the findings of the article and the existing references?
Existing studies focus on mortality, but this study focuses on symptoms and complications in order to identify patients' postoperative problems and draw the attention of the treatment system to it. And shows the importance of educating the patient.

3- Statistics references must be written first hand and new.
The sample size is estimated using the following article (2016).

Ammouri AA, Al-Daakak ZM, Isac C, Gharaibeh H, Al-Zaru I. Symptoms Experienced by Jordanian Men and Women After Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery. Dimens Crit Care Nurs. 2016;35(3):125-32.

4 - The existing challenge is not well mentioned. The author should mention the shortcomings of the existing references.
That was corrected. Thanks.

5- This text must be edited literary.
The text was reviewed and revised.

6- The sample size is not sufficient to determine the frequency of complications.
The sample size was estimated using the above article and the following formula. Taking into account the 10% drop, the sample size of 170 people was calculated.

$$n = \frac{Z^2 \times P(1-P)}{d^2} = \frac{1.96^2 \times 0.56(1-0.56)}{(0.1 \times 0.56)^2} = 154$$

7- Interpretation of results is not well done
Corrected.

Reviewer 2:
Dear Author,
Thank you for your submitting the nice manuscript.
Given the high prevalence of heart disease, it is important to study the problems of these patients but this study needs some revision before publication.
I read your corrections following the comments of the first Reviewer and I express my views on your reforms.

1- The title requires minor grammatical corrections.

Corrected. Thanks.

2- In the method What was the criterion for selecting the 10 items you mentioned in the cardiac symptom survey? While other studies also have examined other cases such as wound infection, nausea and vomiting, etc.
The 10 items used in this study were based on a standard checklist for the assessment of cardiac symptoms.

3- In the discussion the findings are not well interpreted and novelty is not seen in your work, if there Is any novelty in your study, please describe it in the discussion.
Corrected. Thanks.

4- It is better to get help from newer sources in your work. Most of your references are not new.
Added. Thanks.

3 Revision 2

2 comments · 9 Oct 2020 – 9 Oct 2020

Associate Editor

ACCEPT 9 Oct 2020

Dear Author,
All corrections are acceptable.
with the regards

Editor-in-Chief

ACCEPT 9 Oct 2020

Dear Author,
Your manuscript in the current format is acceptable. It should be noted that there is no need to write the year 2018 in the title. This correction could be made at the proof stage.
Thank you very much