OPEN PEER REVIEW

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Peer Review Report for "Three-Month Mortality and Related Risk Factors in Delirium Patients: A Prospective Cohort Study"

Author(s): Payam Mehrabani, Seyed Davood Hosseini Talari, Raheleh Rafaiee, Seyed Hamzeh Hosseini

Review Timeline:

Submit Date: 12 May 2019
Revised Date: 14 Sep 2019
Accepted Date: 24 Sep 2019

Revision (0)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Associate Editor | **Revision** (0) — 11 Aug 2019

Dear EIC,
The manuscript entitled “Three-Month Mortality among Delirium and Related Risk Factors: A Prospective Cohort Study” has been addressed an interesting topic. However, there are several concerns about this study that authors should address in order to reconsider the paper. I want to inform you that, after responding to the attached comments, this manuscript may be appropriate to publish in Shiraz E-Medical Journal:
1- Do not use abbreviations when you state for the first time in the abstract and other sections.
2- The article must be modified and edited in terms of writing and grammar.
3- The most important issue is the novelty of this study. I feel there are studies about this topic. The authors should be more explanation about the novelty of this study in more detail in the introduction and discussion parts.
Thanks.

REFEREE: EIC | **Revision** (0) — 12 Aug 2019

Dear Author,

Your article is reviewed by the reviewers carefully. According to their comments, this document needs a major revision. Please follow their comments as requested.
Thanks.

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (1)

Reply to Reviewers

Ideally, the reviewing process can significantly improve the submitted manuscripts by allowing the authors to take into account the advice of reviewers. Author(s) must reply to all reviewers' comments in a separate Word file, point by point. A "**Reply to Reviewers**" document is submitted along with revised manuscript during submission of revised files, summarizing the changes that the authors made in response to the reviewers' comments. The responses to reviewers' comments specifies how the authors addressed each comment the reviewers made.

You can read the authors' responses to the reviewers' comments in the next page.

Answers to reviewing notes:

Thank you for reading our manuscript and reviewing it, which will help us improve it to a better scientific level.

Comment 1: Do not use abbreviation when you state for the first time in abstract and other section.

Response: We thank for this useful suggestion. It was corrected (Page 1; lines 15-19 & page 5; lines 19-22).

Comment 2: The article must be modified and edited in terms of writing and grammar.

Response: We thank the reviewer for this comment. Manuscript rechecked and corrected for grammatical mistakes.

Comment 3: The most important issue is about the novelty of this study. I feel there are studies about this topic. The authors should be more explain about the novelty of this study in more details in introduction and discussion parts.

Response: We thank the reviewer for this comment. As suggested we added the more explain about the novelty of this study in introduction and discussion (page 3; lines 7-13 & page 9; lines 16-22)

To the author knowledge, this study will be a novel work that aims to investigate the occurrence of delirium and identify the associated risk factors in patients who were being admitted for all causes in a general hospital in north of Iran in a 3-month cohort study. Other researches on risk factors for delirium in Iran used different methods, different case-finding techniques and instruments (1). Most previous studies have investigated individual risk factors for delirium separately in their respective clinical situations (2) and specific diseases (3); Such as postoperative patients(4-7), admitted patients in the critical care unit (Intensive care unit(7-9), Coronary care unit (3)), patients acutely admitted to an internal medicine ward(5). In addition, the major strength of method of this study was the monitoring of patients for delirium that occurred during the 3-month period. We know that delirium by nature tends to fluctuate; therefore, the NEECHAM Confusion Scale has been completed 3 times in hospital: on consulting day, 3 days after and on discharge day. Then, our sample was followed 1 month and 3 months later. Following of patients is important and has implications for nurses in practice, education, and research. Likewise, prospective study could better identify the success of interventions to reducing specific cause of death.

Several studies have been conducted in Iran concerning delirium. Since epidemiologists and other health scientists can design studies in various areas or same place in other time period to report and discuss the result, because of many cultural, economic and geographical differences, including easy access to medical care, good standards of living, patient education, in low- and middle- income countries comparing with developed countries, also in the various provinces of a country or rural areas and cities. So, similar epidemiological studies of the provinces of a country contribute to the general epidemiological knowledge of the country.

This is the first study in Mazandaran province in the north of Iran and we hope these data add to the literature on the information of delirium in Iran.

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Kamran Bagheri Lankarani: EIC | **Revision** (1) 24 Sep 2019

Dear Author,
The document is reviewed carefully by the reviewers. According to their comments and your revisions as requested, this manuscript is accepted.
Thanks.