Author’s response to reviews

Title: Survey of information technology in Intensive Care Units in Ontario, Canada

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
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The Editor
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Re: Manuscript revision - MS: 4862713551517643

Thank you for the reviews on the manuscript “Survey of information technology use in Intensive Care Units in Ontario, Canada”. Our response to the reviewers comments follow.

Reviewer Martich:
1. We have added in a sentence regarding the distribution of beds, ie. size of ICUs, in Results, paragraph 1. Note that the availability of information technology by ICU size was carried out (Table 4).
2. We acknowledge the reviewers concerns regarding reference to an “ideal, recommended, sufficient” number of computers. We believe the statistical analysis to be sound, but have made some changes to clarify the implications of these findings, as described below. This analysis could be removed from the manuscript, but this is a commonly asked question and one we hoped to address by this survey.
   - Results, last paragraph: we have used the term “physicians” rather than “respondents” to emphasize that this was a physician perception.
   - Discussion, first paragraph: we have added a sentence to identify that this was a physician perception, and to emphasize the confidence intervals, which were fairly wide and skewed (“value of approximately 0.4 to 1.1 computers per bed.”)
3. The term COE is not used. We have deliberately used the less specific term “order entry” in the tables to cover all aspects of computerized order entry by clinicians.

Reviewer Morris:
We have added 2 sentences (Discussion, paragraph 2) regarding the limitations of the survey and the exclusive use of physicians.

We hope that these revisions adequately address any concerns. We would be happy to provide further information if necessary.

Sincerely,

Stephen Lapinsky