Reviewer's report

Title: A prospective study on elective surgical inpatient satisfaction with perioperative anaesthesia service at Ayder comprehensive specialized hospital, Mekelle, Ethiopia

Version: 1 Date: 04 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Fitsum Sebsibe Teni

Reviewer's report:

First, I would like to appreciate the authors of this interesting manuscript for their effort in revising it based on the comments provided in the precious reviews. I believe the manuscript has been improved by these efforts made, however, important revisions still remain to be made in terms of typography and content. I have listed the specific comments below.

Abstract

In the 'Methods' sub section, please correct the following typographical issues

1. 'institutional based cross sectional study' to 'institution-based cross-sectional'.
2. 'Ayder comprehensive specialized hospital' to 'Ayder Comprehensive Specialized Hospital'
3. 'interviewer administered' to 'interviewer-administered'
4. 'address' to 'collect data on'
5. 'factors touching satisfaction level' to 'factors possibly related to satisfaction level'

In the 'Results' subsection,

6. How can we say 'nausea and vomiting, intra and postoperative pain, shortness of breath and cold were factors affected patient satisfaction negatively'? Which test or finding led the authors to claim as such? Please clarify and rationalize in the main text of the manuscript

Background

7. Page 6, line 8, please correct '… if the patient fells …' to 'Dissatisfaction ‚Äeh…if the patient feels…'
8. Page 6, line 12, please correct '…the disease is difficult measure…' to '…the disease is difficult to measure…'
9. Page 6, line 35 to 36, three references (of three different studies) are provided for the statement. Please clarify the statement by describing the location and focus of the cited study. Also, please identify which one of the references it is cited from. Please also take out the unrelated references.

10. Page 6, line 39 to 40, there is a similar issue in this statement. It is not clear which of the two references are sources of the finding described here. Please clarify where the finding came from and take out the unrelated reference.

11. Page 6, line 45 to 46, the statement looks to have one wrong reference and another unrelated reference. Reference 18 is not at all about Ethiopia, please take out from this statement.

'Patients' experiences and satisfaction with health care: results of a questionnaire study of specific aspects of care.' It was a study done in Scotland. In addition, reference 19 talks about human resources; please clarify which specific point from that article was cited in this study.

12. Page 6, line 47 to 52, the finding cited in the statement is accompanied with five references. Please clarify which reference it belongs to. In addition please provide proper context of the cited study. Also, in relation to the remaining references listed there, please describe/summarize them clearly to help readers understand why they have been cited.

13. As a general comment to the background section, referencing of the materials used in introducing the study and providing the overall picture of what has been done already should be carefully done.

Methods

14. Page 7, line 9 please correct 'institutional based cross sectional study' to 'institution-based cross-sectional'.

15. Page 7, line 31, '…was prepared by reviewing previously done studies…'; can you please cite the studies used in the preparation of the data collection instrument. It is important for readers as well as those interested in conducting similar research. Furthermore it provides transparency to the methodology followed in your study.

16. In relation to this, please include the data collection instrument used in this study as a supporting file. This is helpful for readers to understand the study in its entirety.

17. Page 7, line 46, '…data collation methods…'; please correct to '…data collection methods…'

18. Page 7, line 49, 'Data comprehensiveness and uniformity was crisscross by the investigators.' please clarify the statement.

19. Page 8, line 19, '…touching…'; please correct this to 'with possible link to'.
20. Page 8, line 19, '...Binary and multiple logistic regressions were employed..'. Please consider modifying as 'binary logistic regression'.

21. Page 8, line 41, 'Definition of terms'. Please provide the reference used for the ASA classes definitions.

Results

22. Page 10, line 23, 'paying status'. Please capitalize the first word

23. Age is an important socio-demographic as well as clinical factor. Please report data on age and age groups. Please also, include it in the statistical tests performed

24. In Table 2, educational status categories have too many groups with zero. I suggest restructuring the variable by combining some of the groups together (e.g. primary, secondary and higher education, as three groups)

25. Table 2, the title doesn't tell what test was conducted, the results do not show it either. Please explicitly state what statistical tests were done to come up with the p-values listed there.

26. Table 2, if the statistical test claimed to be done here is binary logistic regression (multiple logistic regression), there are not findings indicating that. Table 2, presents p-values, however, it is not clear whether it comes from a binary logistic regression (the bivariate, or the adjusted version of the test) or another analysis. More importantly, when logistic regression analyses are done, I believe, it is important to present all the variables involved in both the bivariate and multivariate model as well as the crude and adjusted odds ratios should be reported in the table. This is not the case for Table 2. Please, conduct the logistic regression analysis properly, by also including age as commented above and provide the results in a table format commonly used logistic regression.

27. If conducting logistic regression analysis is not possible, Pearson's chi square tests or Fisher's exact test can be considered, even though these do not give us findings controlled for confounders.

Discussion

28. Page 12, line 33, reference number 6 does not seem to have any relation to the sentence the prior statement the authors described. Please take it out or rationalize its inclusion here.

29. Page 12, line 33, reference number 16 doesn't seem to be directly related and also reports lower satisfaction in the context it is cited. Please clarify.

30. Page 12, line 40 to 44, '…And another reason for the low satisfaction level in our study might be nausea and vomiting (39% and 20%), difficulty to breath in the immediate postoperative time
(16% and 10%) and pain (14% and 5%) were the factors which had…'. It is possible to assess whether these possible factors are related to satisfaction or not by including them in the logistic regression analysis (preferably) or through chi squared tests. However, with out attempts at such analyses, it seems a bit difficult to present them as factors. Please consider assessing these variables for their association with satisfaction.

31. Page 12, line 56, '…This difference could be explained by the duration of stay in the reference study was very short and the type of surgery in our study was not life threatening…'. Please described which reference the statement is referring to.

32. Page 13, line 16 to 17, 'But the study conducted at University of Gonder hospital indicate that participants those who operated under regional anesthesia was satisfied than those who operated under general anesthesia.' Please cite the reference indicating this study after the sentence.

33. Page 15, line 46, 'Reference'. Please correct to 'References'

Comments on texts in the figures list

34. Page 18, line 59 to 63; page 19, line 4 to 7; page 19, line 16 to 26; page 19, line 35 to 51, page 19 line 60 to 62 and page 20, line 4 to 8. Please explain why the text on the specified line are presented here. If they are part of the main manuscript, please consider moving them to the main text.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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