Reviewer’s report

Title: Experimental application of Business Process Management technology to manage clinical pathways: the pediatric kidney transplantation follow up case.

Version: 0 Date: 05 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Ying Wang

Reviewer's report:

This study seeks to adopt business process management technology to management clinical pathways. However, it requires more work to clarify the methods, and better explanation of some important definitions and concepts in paper.

1. First, the structure of this paper needs to be improved. From the introduction to discussion, the authors listed many key points related to the topics. However, there was lack of smooth connection between these points in context. For example, in the introduction when they tried to introduce the BPM, it might be better to explain the feasibility of applying BPM to clinical pathways (line 70-85). It will help the readers to better understand why they adopted the BMP.

2. From lines 64 to 87, the authors need better explanation about the current issues in clinical pathways implementation. It is difficult to capture why the specific time points in clinical pathways are important? How would these points affect the clinical outcome on patients? Why all patients can follow a standard clinical pathway, doesn't individual care plan depend on patient's demographics?

3. The authors should refer to the specific literature when they first introduced the technique or just platform. E.g., line 168.

4. Line 113, please clarify the patient data.

5. From lines 21-130, a table including a check list might be a better way to describe everything in a more clear way.

6. Line 133, please be clear what 'scheduling' is.

7. The structure of Methods should be reorganized. E.g., move the technology section to the back of the approach section.

8. Please reconsider the title of 'Process definition and architecture', and use more descriptive title to specify the definition, as the context described an example case.
9. Lines 148 to 150, this paragraph does not belong here. It might be better to move it to the introduction or discussion section.

10. Regarding the performance evaluation, is the time reduction statistically significant? How is p value? It will also help to provide the range of time spent per patient.

11. Please enrich the discussion with more comparison with recent literature.

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.

No

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

No

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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