Reviewer’s report

Title: The Impact of Hospital Accreditation on Quality Measures: An Interrupted Time Series Analysis.

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Reviewer: Girdhar Agarwal

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Reviewer’s report for article “Impact of Hospital Accreditation on Quality Measure: An interrupted time series analysis” by Subashine Devkaran and others

Data Collection:

1. Stage I: Random sample of 12000 patient records from a population of 50000 is taken (January 2009 to December 2012). How much of this is for pre-accreditation and how much is for post-accreditation?
2. Data Unit is patient or patient’s records.
3. Stage II: Each month, a simple random sample of 24% were selected resulting in 492, 480 observations. What are these numbers? Is this data out of 12000 selected in Stage I.

Methodology:

1. The authors are giving the impression that “time series analysis” is different from “statistical analysis”. This is not so. Actually, time series is also a part of Statistics.
2. At one point, they are saying that statistical association between variables can not establish causality. In the same breath, they are giving the impression that time-series analysis will remove this anamoly. Is it really true.

Typographical:

p.4, line 7: static should be statistical.

In view of the above serious comments about data collection and methodology, I can not recommend the paper for publication.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.