Reviewer’s report

Title: Factors Associated with Prolonged Length of Stay for Elective Hepatobiliary and Neurosurgery Patients: A Retrospective Medical Record Review

Version: 1 Date: 08 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Chung-Ying Lin

Reviewer's report:

I would like to congratulate the authors as they did a great job in revising their manuscript. I feel the current manuscript much improved and is easy to read as compared with the previous version.

I especially admire the authors efforts on introducing the factors in Background section and their efforts on re-defining LOS which lead to a major revision of statistical analysis. However, there are some minor but essential points should be further revised. I hope that the following comments will be helpful.

1. As for limitation, I think that the cross-sectional study design is another limitation because we cannot conclude any causal effect.

2. What is High BMI in Tables 1 and 2? The authors should define it as the Tables should stand alone.

3. Tables 3 and 4: (1) When we interpret the logistic regression results, the beta information is quite indirect. Please report the exp (B). (2) Also, the authors should provide the reference group in the predictors if any (e.g., in the admissions after 5pm, does after 5 pm being a reference group or before 5 pm a reference group). (3) Please use <0.001 to replace the 0.00 value in p-value. (4) Please define the abbreviations in the Tables. (5) I personally feel that reporting R square in the logistic regression means nothing. But I have no objection if the authors want to report it; however, please indicate which R square they are using in the logistic regression.

Finally, I appreciate the contribution from the authors, and hope that they will continue their good work for patients' health.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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

Unable to assess

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:

Acceptable

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