Reviewer’s report

Title: Reporting quality of randomized controlled trial abstracts in the seven high-ranking anesthesiology journals

Version: 1 Date: 12 Jul 2018

Reviewer: William Cragg

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for your careful attention to the previous set of comments - in general they have been satisfactorily resolved. I have a few minor comments on the changes made in this revision:

- Abstract - the figure of 16% appears twice in the Results section in relation to correspondence; perhaps this is duplication that might be avoided?

- Background line 2 - would read better as 'paywalls' not 'paywall'

- Near end of background, suggest add the word 'the' to give: "Furthermore, we wanted to explore the current state of affairs in more recent years, as CONSORT-A was published ten years ago [1]."

- Methods outcomes - typo in last line - "across"

- Discussion: second paragraph - "This modest increase in average adherence of 2.7% indicates that the 2008-2009..." - as the percentages this difference refers to have been rounded to whole numbers, should this be too? (although it would actually be 2%).

- Minor: sometimes the journal is spelled 'Anesthesia', sometimes 'Anaesthesia' - the latter is correct.

- Discussion: apologies if missed in first draft, but the word 'the' should be included in: "Furthermore, in our analysis we included the second..."

- Discussion: "...because they are not willing/able to pay for it..." - suggest avoid using slash in this context, where 'or' will do
- Discussion: minor, but "...via old-fashioned snail mail" seems too informal to me - like slang. Suggest '...via post'

- Discussion: sentence starting "Limitations of this study..." is now very long, consider splitting up.

- Discussion, end of same sentence, typo "defficiencies" - should be "deficiencies".

- Discussion, same paragraph: "For this reason, we resorted to using PubMed..." - minor comment, but 'resorted to' sounds like a negative decision after everything else has been exhausted and so on - I assume it was a positive choice as the best available methodology to you, so you could consider re-wording.

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