

Peer Review File

Article information: <https://dx.doi.org/10.21037/jhmhp-22-128>

Reviewer A

Comment 1:

The author has made improvements to the intro, methods, and results. The section where I find the author has not made a good faith effort to improve the manuscript is the discussion section. The only apparent change here is that the author has retitled the section "Practical application of results" from discussion, and has added two sentences at the end.

Comments on the original submission (both from myself and other reviewers) was that the discussion section lacked any references, and did not offer meaningful contextualization in prior literature. Retitling this section and the two sentences added (neither of which contain any references) does not address these concerns. The paper now lacks any apparent discussion section, and still does not contain references or meaningful contextualization with literature. A thorough discussion section – with references – is essential. I recommend another round of revisions until this concern is addressed.

Reply 1:

"Discussion" title was reinserted to this section. Six references have been added to offer more meaningful contextualization in prior literature:

- Ly, D. P., & Cutler, D. M. (2018). Factors of US hospitals associated with improved profit margins: an observational study. *Journal of general internal medicine*, 33, 1020-1027.
- Garrido, T., Raymond, B., Jamieson, L., Liang, L., & Wiesenthal, A. (2004). Making the business case for hospital information systems--a Kaiser Permanente investment decision. *Journal of Health Care Finance*, 31(2), 16-25.
- Grussing, & Liu, L. Y. (2014). Knowledge-Based Optimization of Building Maintenance, Repair, and Renovation Activities to Improve Facility Life Cycle Investments. *Journal of Performance of Constructed Facilities*, 28(3), 539–548. [https://doi.org/10.1061/\(ASCE\)CF.1943-5509.0000449](https://doi.org/10.1061/(ASCE)CF.1943-5509.0000449)
- Hwang, S. (2009). Dynamic regression models for prediction of construction costs. *Journal of Construction Engineering and Management*, 135(5), 360-367.
- Lowe, D. J., Emsley, M. W., & Harding, A. (2006). Predicting construction cost using multiple regression techniques. *Journal of construction engineering and management*, 132(7), 750-758.
- R. E. Brown and H. L. Willis, "The economics of aging infrastructure," in *IEEE Power and Energy Magazine*, vol. 4, no. 3, pp. 36-43, May-June 2006, doi: 10.1109/MPAE.2006.1632452.

Changes in the text:

Discussion and Practical Application of Results

As many hospitals continue to face increasing financial pressures from decreased margins, developing and communicating a sound business case is imperative to secure necessary funding amidst competing projects.

A similar model has been used by building owners and facility practitioners for decades in predicting capital construction costs savings from association to market factors and indexes

...the model is still helpful in benchmarking the capital replacement funds needed for sustaining and replacing aging infrastructure to promote a reliable environment of care

Reviewer B

1. Please indicate the full name of GSF in Figure 1 and Table 2-3.
2. Zero before the decimal point cannot be omitted.
3. Please include Statistical Analysis in "Methods" Section. It should be presented as a separate paragraph with the subheading "Statistical Analysis".

Reply: The attached documents include revisions per the comments listed above. Please let me know if there are any further questions or comments. Thank you.