

Adherence to Reporting Guidelines and Trial Registration Across Transplantation Journals

Mahad Chaudhry¹, B.S., Matthew Rashid¹, B.S., Kyle Fitzgerald¹, B.S., Caleb Smith¹, B.S., Danya Nees¹, B.S., Griffin Hughes¹, B.A., B.S., Matt Vassar^{1,2}, Ph.D.

1. Office of Medical Student Research, Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences, Tulsa, OK
2. Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences, Tulsa, OK



OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES

Background

Reporting guidelines and clinical trial registration are two methods of enhancing methodological rigor and transparency in clinical research. To this end, medical journals may require or encourage their use. To our knowledge, no study has assessed transplantation journals for their requiring of reporting guidelines and clinical trial registration. Therefore, we sought to assess transplantation journals for the adoption of policies regarding these tools.

Methods

- Forty-seven “Transplantation” journals were identified for analysis via the 2021 Scopus CiteScore tool.
- In a masked, duplicate fashion, data regarding journals reporting guideline and clinical trial registration policies were extracted.
- An attempt to contact each journal was made for transparency purposes and to clarify accepted publication types.

Results

- Of the 47 transplantation journals:
- Most covered reporting guideline: CONSORT (63%)
 - Least covered reporting guideline: QUOROM (0%)
 - PRISMA data was mentioned 34%
 - Besides CONSORT, no other guideline was used in more than 50% of the included journals.

Mentions Equator Network

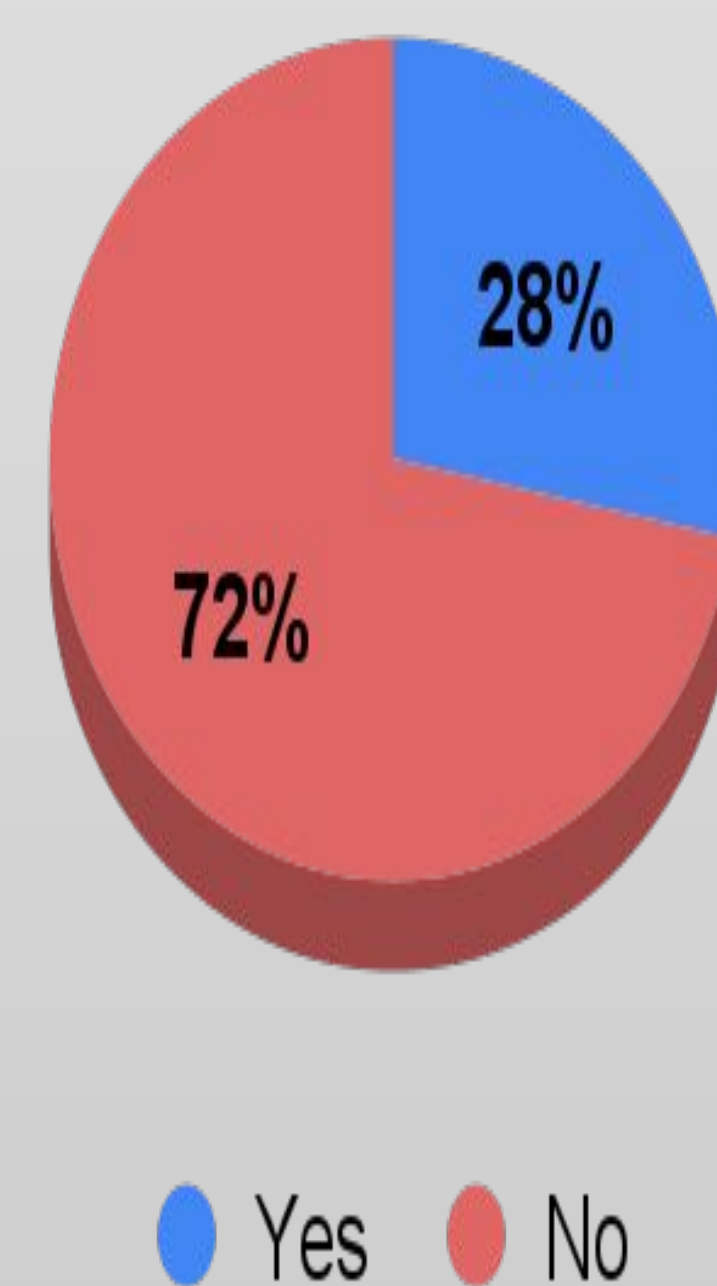


Figure 1: EQUATOR Network Reporting in 47 Journals

Mentions ICMJE

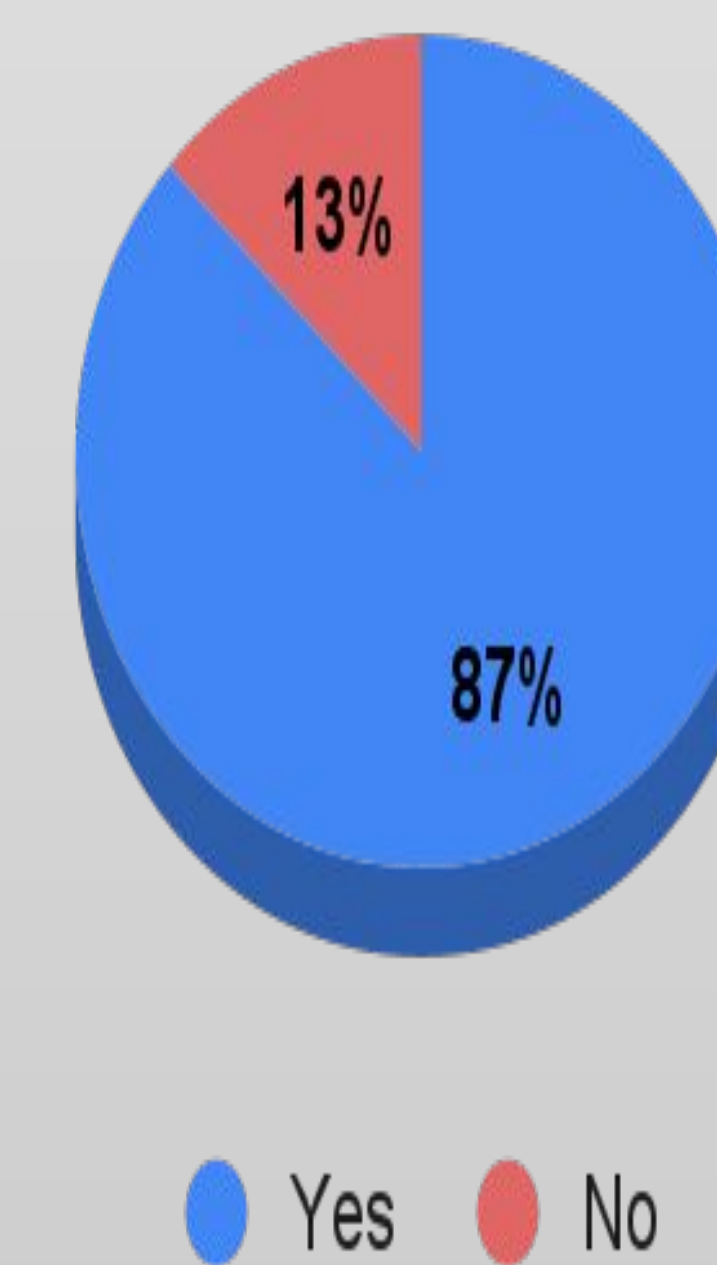


Figure 2: ICMJE Reporting in 47 Journals

Clinical Trial Registration

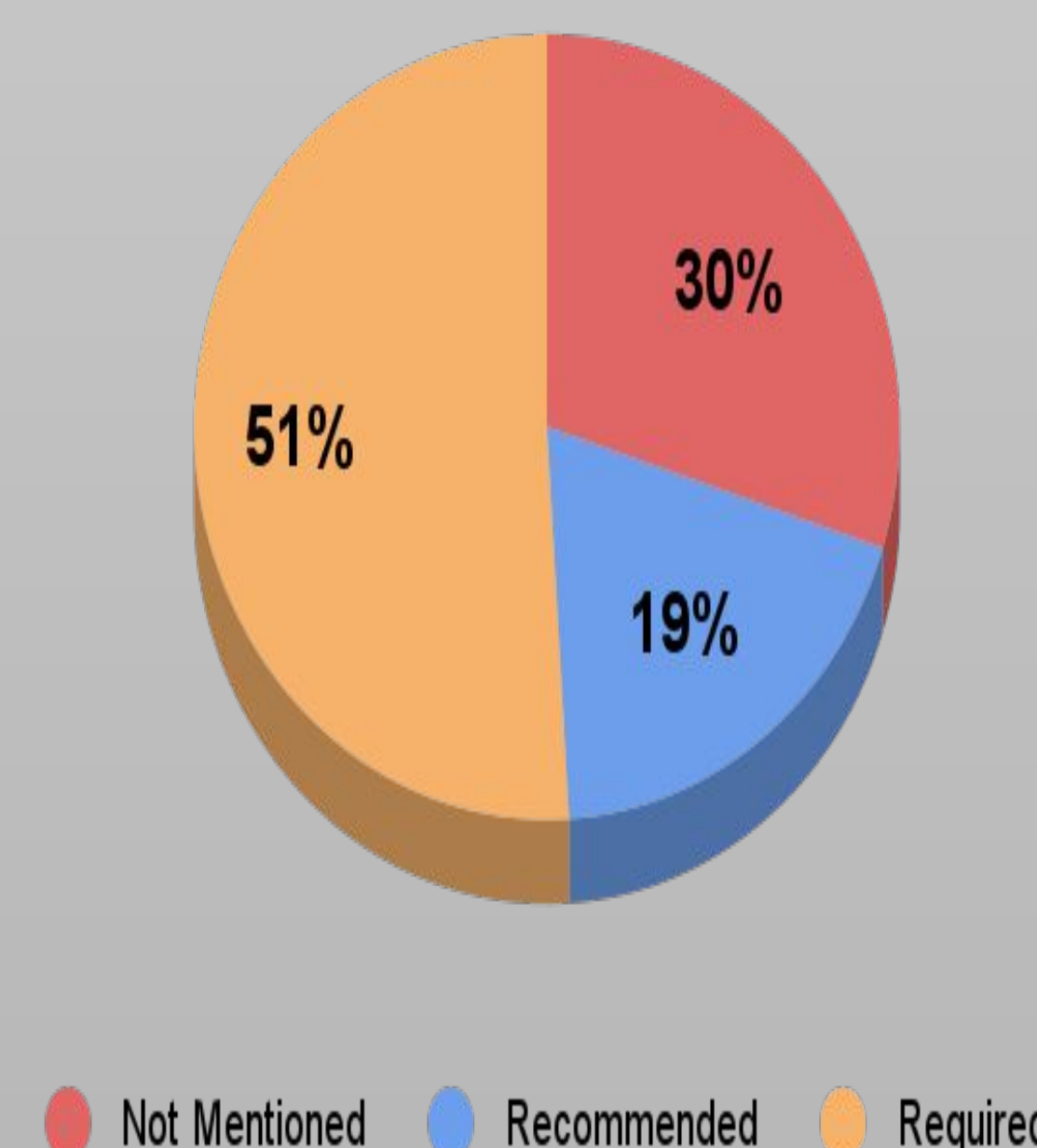


Figure 3: Clinical Trial Registration in 47 Journals

Conclusion

We found that the top transplantation journals rarely required/recommended the use of reporting guidelines. Because transplantation medicine involves the management of high acuity patients, these journals should require or strongly recommend adherence to reporting guidelines to improve research quality.

References



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