

Answering Reviewers

Many thanks for each individual reviewer for taking time out of their busy schedules to meticulously review our manuscript.

I have re-submitted the manuscript taking each of the reviewers & editors comments into consideration.

Reviewer code: 02703298

Thank you for accepting my manuscript as proposed.

Reviewer code: 00738988

Thank you for your comments and suggestions. I have included the 2018 papers which you suggested as they add weight to the continued downward trend in 1-year mortality rates. Interestingly, the large study by Cancio et al (n = 30,000+) report a mortality rate of 22%, as suggested by our paper.

Reviewer code: 02691280

Many thanks for your comments.

Editor:

1. I have resubmitted the manuscript according to the review report and your comments.
2. I have added a running title as requested.
3. I have included author contributions – note I have added an author which was not included on initial manuscript submission, this was my own error in omission. There are 3 authors in our research group for this manuscript.
4. I have added an e-mail for correspondence as suggested.
5. I have reformatted the abstract to comply with your style as requested.
6. I have added the core tip feature as requested.
7. I have moved the tables and legends to appendix at the foot of the manuscript as suggested.
8. I have written the article highlights under headings suggested by you as requested.
9. Finally, I have added PMIDs & DOIs for each of the references as requested.

I trust these manuscript improvements are to your satisfaction,

I look forward to your response,

Kind regards,

Dr. Colum Downey

BM. BS., M.Ch, B.Sc., M.Sc., MRCSI