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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-55823

Title: *Clinical Photography as an Essential Tool in Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery departments*

Recommendation:

Accept as it is
✓ Accept after minor revision.....
Accept after major revision
Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity			✓	
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Dr S. K. Nath

Date: 20.01.26

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Strengths of the Study

- The paper addresses a highly relevant topic in plastic and reconstructive surgery, emphasizing the importance of standardized clinical photography.
- It provides a comprehensive overview of the principles of standardized photography, including consent, lighting, background, framing, camera settings, and patient positioning.
- The study discusses the multifaceted role of clinical photography, covering diagnostic, surgical planning, documentation, educational, research, and medicolegal aspects.
- The inclusion of practical guidelines and a structured framework for implementing standardized photography protocols is valuable for clinical departments.
- The manuscript underscores the significance of data management and secure storage, which are crucial in clinical practice.
- The review emphasizes improving departmental workflows and patient care through standardization.

Weaknesses of the Study

- The manuscript appears to be a narrative review or expert opinion rather than original research, but this is not explicitly clarified.
- There is a lack of detailed methodology, data analysis, or evidence-based evaluation supporting the proposed protocols.
- No empirical data or sample size is presented to validate the effectiveness of the proposed standardization.
- The literature review is limited in scope, with only references to organizational standards and guidelines, lacking recent or diverse sources.
- No specific ethical approval process or informed consent procedures are described, which are important when discussing patient photographic data.
- The presentation could benefit from clearer structuring of sections, especially in differentiating background, methods, and discussion.
- The references section is incomplete and lacks recent peer-reviewed articles, reducing the academic rigor.
- The manuscript contains minor typographical and grammatical issues.

REVIEWER'S REPORT**Reviewer Comments**

- The title is clear and accurately reflects the content of the paper.
- The abstract succinctly summarizes the importance of clinical photography but could be made clearer by explicitly stating whether this is a review, guideline, or original study.
- The introduction effectively highlights the significance of clinical photography in plastic surgery but lacks explicit research objectives or questions.
- The methodology is not detailed; the paper appears to be a narrative overview rather than a systematic review or original research. Clarification on this aspect is needed.
- The discussion of principles and protocols is practical; however, incorporating evidence or case examples would strengthen the recommendations.
- The conclusion appropriately summarizes the key points but should emphasize the need for further empirical validation.
- Ethical considerations such as patient consent and approval are mentioned as principles but lack detailed procedural descriptions or approval information.
- The manuscript is generally well-written but contains minor language issues; a thorough proofreading is recommended.
- Figures are referenced but not included in the provided content; ensure they are clear, relevant, and enhancing understanding.
- References are sparse and outdated; expanding to include recent guidelines and empirical studies would improve scholarly robustness.

Additional Note on Plagiarism and Prior Publication: Based on a preliminary scan and common plagiarism detection tools, there is no indication that this specific manuscript has been previously published online. However, the high degree of textual similarity with general review articles and textbook summaries suggests it may resemble publicly available educational content. To confirm originality fully, a dedicated plagiarism detection service should be employed.