

## Table Components Quiz

by Laura King, MA, MFA, ELS

### ANSWER KEY

**Directions:** Refer to §4.1.4, Table Components of the *AMA Manual of Style* to correct the errors in the following table.

#### Patient, disease, and treatment characteristics

Characteristic <sup>a</sup>	Entire Cohort (N = 884)	Definitive Radiotherapy (n = 608)	Primary Surgery (n = 276)	Effect Size (95% CI)*
<b>Patient Characteristics</b>				
Age, mean (SD)	61.5 (10.7)	62.3 (10.8)	59.6 (10.5)	2.74 (1.22-4.26)
Sex				
Male	727 (82.2)	509 (83.7)	218 (79.0)	1.37 (0.96-1.96)
Female	157 (17.8)	99 (16.3)	58 (21.0)	0.73 (0.51-1.05)
Race/ethnicity				
White	842 (95.3)	575 (94.6)	267 (96.7)	0.59 (0.28-1.25)
Black	14 (1.6)	11 (1.8)	3 (1.1)	1.68 (0.46-6.06)
Other	28 (3.1)	22 (3.6)	6 (2.2)	1.69 (0.68-4.21)
Marital status				
Married	618 (69.9)	424 (69.7)	194 (70.3)	0.97 (0.71-1.33)
Not married	228 (25.8)	160 (26.3)	68 (24.6)	1.09 (0.79-1.52)
Unknown or missing	38 (4.3)	24 (4.0)	14 (5.1)	0.77 (0.39-1.51)
Charlson-Deyo comorbidity score				
0	364 (41.2)	244 (40.1)	120 (43.5)	0.87 (0.65-1.16)
1	136 (15.4)	90 (14.8)	46 (16.7)	0.87 (0.59-1.28)
≥2	384 (43.4)	274 (45.1)	110 (39.9)	1.24 (0.93-1.65)
Smoking claim				
Yes	212 (24.0)	147 (24.2)	65 (23.6)	1.04 (0.74-1.45)
No	672 (76.0)	461 (75.8)	211 (76.4)	0.97 (0.69-1.35)
SEER region				
Northeast	166 (18.8)	117 (19.2)	49 (17.8)	1.10 (0.76-1.6)
South	210 (23.8)	143 (23.5)	67 (24.3)	0.96 (0.69-1.34)
Midwest	159 (18.0)	107 (17.6)	52 (18.8)	0.92 (0.64-1.33)
West	349 (39.5)	241(39.6)	108 (39.1)	1.02 (0.76-1.37)
State				
California	349 (39.5)	241 (39.6)	108 (39.1)	1.02 (0.76-1.37)
Connecticut	54 (6.1)	30 (4.9)	24 (8.7)	0.55 (0.31-0.95)
Kentucky	105 (11.9)	75 (12.3)	30 (10.9)	1.15 (0.74-1.81)
Ohio	159 (18.0)	107 (17.6)	52 (18.8)	0.92 (0.64-1.33)

Georgia	105 (11.9)	68 (11.2)	37 (13.4)	0.81 (0.53-1.25)
New York	112 (12.7)	87 (14.3)	25 (9.1)	1.68 (1.05-2.68)
Median census tract income, %				
<25	231 (26.1)	159 (26.2)	72 (26.1)	1.00 (0.73-1.39)
25-<50	217 (24.5)	149 (24.5)	68 (24.6)	0.99 (0.71-1.38)
50-<75	218 (24.7)	159 (26.2)	59 (21.4)	1.30 (0.93-1.83)
≥75	218 (24.7)	141 (23.2)	77 (27.9)	0.78 (0.57-1.08)
Area of residence				
Metropolitan	835 (94.5)	569 (93.6)	266 (96.4)	0.55 (0.27-1.12)
Nonmetropolitan	35 (4.0)	27 (4.4)	8 (2.9)	1.56 (0.70-3.47)
Missing	14 (1.6)	12 (2.0)	2 (0.7)	2.76 (0.61-12.4)
High school education, %				
<25	231 (26.1)	159 (26.2)	72 (26.1)	1.00 (0.73-1.39)
25-50	218 (24.7)	154 (25.3)	64 (23.2)	1.12 (0.81-1.57)
>50 to 75	216 (24.4)	147 (24.2)	69 (25.0)	0.96 (0.69-1.33)
>75	219 (24.8)	148 (24.3)	71 (25.7)	0.93 (0.67-1.29)
<b>Disease Characteristics</b>				
Primary site				
Tonsil	396 (44.8)	238 (39.1)	158 (57.2)	0.48 (0.36-0.64)
Base of tongue	410 (46.4)	318 (52.3)	92 (33.3)	2.19 (1.63-2.95)
Other	73 (8.3)	50 (8.2)	23 (8.3)	0.99 (0.59-1.65)
Missing	5 (0.6)	2 (0.3)	3 (1.1)	0.30 (0.05-1.81)
Historical stage				
Localized	186 (21.0)	101 (16.7)	85 (30.8)	0.45 (0.32-0.63)
Advanced	681 (77.0)	494 (81.3)	187 (67.8)	2.06 (1.49-2.85)
Unknown or missing	17 (2)	13 (2)	4 (1.4)	1.49 (0.48-4.60)
Grade				
I	39 (4.4)	20 (3.3)	19 (6.9)	0.46 (0.24-0.88)
II	269 (30.4)	162 (26.6)	107 (38.8)	0.57 (0.42-0.78)
III	355 (40.2)	252 (41.4)	103 (37.3)	1.19 (0.89-1.59)
Other	221 (25.0)	174 (28.6)	47 (17.0)	1.95 (1.36- 2.80)
<b>Treatment Characteristics</b>				
Definitive RT				
RT alone	57 (6.4)	57 (9.4)	...	...
Induction RT	105 (11.9)	105 (17.3)	...	...
Concurrent CRT	446 (50.5)	446 (73.4)	...	...
Primary surgery				
Alone	81 (9.2)	...	81 (29.3)	...
Adjuvant RT	54 (6.1)	...	54 (19.6)	...
Adjuvant CRT	141 (16.0)	...	141 (51.1)	...

Abbreviations: CRT, chemoradiotherapy; RT, radiotherapy; SEER, Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results.

<sup>a</sup>Data are presented as number (percentage) of patients unless otherwise indicated.

<sup>\*</sup>Unadjusted effect size estimate for categorical variables is the odds ratio calculated from  $\chi^2$  test (or Fisher exact test if appropriate), and for continuous variables, it was the mean difference calculated from the 2-sided *t* test. The odds ratio for effect size reflects the relative odds that a given covariate is in the definitive RT vs primary surgery cohort. A value greater than 1 implies that the variable is more often seen in the RT cohort.

ANSWER:

**Table. Patient, Disease, and Treatment Characteristics<sup>a</sup>**

Characteristic <sup>b</sup>	Entire Cohort (N = 884)	Definitive Radiotherapy (n = 608)	Primary Surgery (n = 276)	Effect Size (95% CI) <sup>c</sup>
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Primary surgery				
Alone	81 (9.2)	NA	81 (29.3)	NA
Adjuvant RT	54 (6.1)	NA	54 (19.6)	NA
Adjuvant CRT	141 (16.0)	NA	141 (51.1)	NA

Abbreviations: CRT, chemoradiotherapy; NA, not applicable; RT, radiotherapy; SEER, Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results.

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**Editor's Note:**

**Object identifier:** Each table should be formally identified as such, and if there is more than 1 in an article, the tables should be numbered consecutively according to the order in which they are mentioned in the text (Table 1, Table 2, etc). If the article contains only 1 table, it is referred to in the text as "Table."

**Title:** The capitalization style used in article titles should be followed for table titles.

**Footnotes:** The letter for a footnote that applies to the entire table (eg, one that explains the method used to gather the data or format of data presentation) should be placed after the table title.

**Column headings:** Column and row headings are set in sentence case (only an initial cap), similar to axis labels in figures.

**Footnotes:** For both tables and figures, footnotes are indicated with superscript lowercase letters in alphabetical order (a-z).

**Cut-in heads:** For a table that may be readily divided into parts to enhance clarity or for 2 closely related tables that would be better combined, cut-in headings may be used. A cut-in heading may be set in boldface type to draw the reader's attention. It is placed above the table columns but below the column heads and applies to all the tabular material in the portion of the table immediately below it. In some publications, cut-in headings are centered. However, centered cut-in headings may interfere with downward scanning and may not be as readable and thus should be used with care; thus, AMA style prefers flush-left cut-in heads.

**Row headings:** If a unit of measure is not included in the column heading, it should be included in the row heading.

**Blank cells:** Missing data and blank space in the table field (ie, an empty cell) may create ambiguity and should be avoided, unless an entry in a cell does not apply (eg, a column head does not apply to one of the stub items). Use of ellipses in cells is also ambiguous and should be avoided. The numeral 0 should be used only to indicate that the value of the data in the cell is zero. Designations such as NA (for "not available," "not analyzed," or "not applicable") may be used, provided their meaning is explained in a footnote. In this case, the use of blank cells could also be justified, since the data clearly don't apply to that column.

**Alignment of data:** In the JAMA Network journals, all columns are set flush left whether the cell contains text or data.

**Race/ethnicity:** Note that it is ideal to explain all classifications and not label people as "other." For more see [§11.12.3](#), Race/Ethnicity in the *AMA Manual of Style*.