

Using Word Clouds to Re-Envision Letters of Recommendation for Residency Applicants

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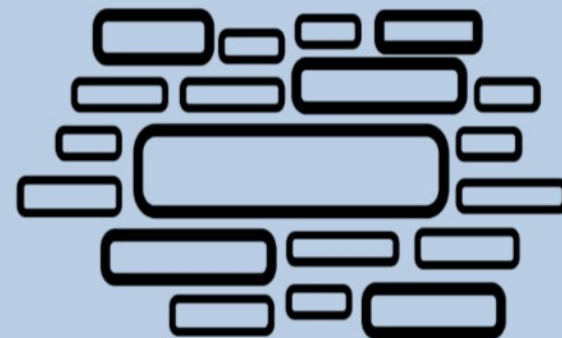
"Word cloud" visual letters of recommendation (VLORs) combine best elements of standardized letters and narrative letters (NLORs) to both enable efficiency and convey meaningful content.



Significantly more time required to review NLORs vs VLORs (61 vs 18 seconds)



No significant difference in distribution of median scores for VLORs and NLORs ($p=0.289$)



All reviewers found VLORs easy to use and moderately to extremely useful

Research findings:

<http://www.kumc.edu/school-of-medicine/otolaryngology/research/highlights.html>