Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Pharmacist provision of primary health care: a modified Delphi validation of pharmacists’ competencies

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 12 February 2012

**Reviewer:** Esther Suter

**Reviewer’s report:**

I thoroughly enjoyed reading this interesting and relevant paper. The process to develop pharmacist’s competencies was appropriate although the small numbers of pharmacists participating in the surveys and the teleconference is of concern. The identified competencies will be essential to shape the education of pharmacists practicing in primary health care settings.

I would like to suggest a number of minor essential revisions:

**Methods**
Generally more details in the methods section would enhance understanding of the approach used.

Page 5: add 2-3 additional sentences to describe the CanMeds model

Page 6:
• “pharmacists were identified via review of innovative practices…” what were those innovative practices?
• How many pharmacists were contacted and what was the response rate?
• What was the nature of the revision after the first survey? Were there any items deleted or added? –please describe.

Page 7:
• I require more detailed information on how the importance weighting is calculated for sub-elements and domains to fully understand how the I-values in Appendix 2 and Table 5 were arrived at.

**Results:**

Page 7:
• First survey: how many of the 16 pharmacists completing the survey participated in the interview?

Table 1: please add for each variable (gender, age and practice type) how many had missing values

**Discussion page 9:**
Adding a paragraph on how the competencies developed in this study
compare/differ from the practice to entry competencies outlined in Ref 8 or similar standards would strengthen the paper.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'