Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Knowledge and Attitude of Final Year Medical Students in Germany towards Palliative Care - an interinstitutional questionnaire-based study

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 4 April 2011

**Reviewer:** Doreen Oneschuk

**Reviewer’s report:**

**Major Compulsory Revisions**

1. General comment on the paper: While the nature of the content is of interest, particularly for those involved with palliative medicine education, there is a need for furthering editing to improve the quality of the written English. A number of the sentences require a change in structure. Other words should be substituted for 'profound', 'weak confidence', 'ought', 'obscure', 'weak self-esteem', 'installed'; use 'mandatory' instead of obligatory,. Avoid the use of 'supposed to' in the Methods-Development of a questionnaire. I believe a thorough read through of the paper, and some assistance with the English language, will improve the paper.

**Minor Essential Revisions:**

1. Throughout the paper, there is reference to this being a questionnaire, and other times, a survey. Please be more consistent with this terminology throughout the paper.

2. Who pretested the survey?

3. Remove the reference to the two tables from the Methods-Development of a questionnaire section. They belong in the Results section.

4. Figure 1 should indicate that the results are for both schools combined.

5. Table 1- include the numerical values of the responses, in addition to the percentages for each column.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

**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.