Reviewer's report

Title: Expertise About Herbs and Dietary Supplements among Diverse Health Professionals

Version: 1 Date: 12 March 2006

Reviewer: Victor Sierpina

Reviewer's report:

General
This is a well conceived, well-executed, and well-analyzed study of an important topic area. Our research also confirms the high need/interest of physicians in getting more information on HDS. I would like to provide access to the HDS e-curriculum for community preceptors and faculty.

Since this is a survey done prior to an e-curriculum, the educator in me would like to see the post-test results compared to the pre-test in knowledge, confidence, and communications. While I realize this is another topic and paper, it might be alluded to in the discussion session as an upcoming separate report. Having taken the course myself, I would be interested in the mean differences among physicians and other health care providers as a result of taking it.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

The abbreviation K,C,C in the first paragraph of the abstract is distracting and is never used again. Eliminate it.
Background: First sentence makes it sound like people pray before using HDS. Revise as follows. "Herbs and dietary supplements......in the US besides prayer.(ref)
On the bottom of page 7, you refer to Table 5 instead of Table 4. There is no table 5. Please correct.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare I have no competing interests.