Reviewer's report

Title: Developing counseling skills through pre-recorded videos and role play: a pre- and post-intervention study in a Pakistani medical school.

Version: 3 Date: 9 October 2009

Reviewer: Marta van Zanten

Reviewer's report:

Editorial comments:
In the Abstract, the acronym OSCE is defined in the first sentence, and then is defined again in the fourth sentence but this time with italic text.
“T” statistic is inconsistently capitalized or written with lower case text.
In the sixth sentence of the Results section, “is post-intervention” should be “in post-intervention”.
There is no punctuation at the end of the last sentence of the second paragraph of the Results section.
In the fourth paragraph of the Results section, it is unclear what “each sub-group of the 54” means.
In the last sentence of the first paragraph of the Discussion section, “but increased” needs correction.
The first sentence of the second paragraph of the Discussion section is unclear and requires rewriting.
In the second paragraph of the Discussion section, “foreign medical graduates” is used once with italics and once without. Also, the more commonly accepted phrase is “international medical graduates”.
The last sentence of the fourth paragraph of the Discussion section should read “in the future”.
In the first sentence of the fifth paragraph of the Discussion section, it is not clear what is meant by “outdoor facilities”.
In the Acknowledgements section, the name Dr. William Burdick is misspelled.
References with typos include numbers 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 24.

Based on your assessment of the validity of the manuscript, what do you advise should be the next step?
- Accept after minor essential revisions (which the authors can be trusted to make)
Level of interest
- An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Quality of written English
- Needs some language corrections before being published

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.