Reviewer's report

Title: Interactive seminars or small group tutorials in preclinical medical education: is there a difference? Results of a randomized controlled trial

Version: 2 Date: 3 August 2010

Reviewer: Shinichiro Hirokawa

Reviewer’s report:

Comments:

Revised article is very interesting.
However, I would like to make some suggestions for the usage of the word "interactive"

Major Compulsory Revisions: [none]

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. Title; The title is still unclear. difference to what?, (effect or motivation?, or for the students or teacher?).
2. Figures or tables are too much. Please check the circuitous explanations.

Discretionary Revisions:
1. Introduction; What is a difference between interactive education and learning? Author uses several words for interactive method, such as education, learning, lecture, and seminar etc. Please use those words carefully.
2. Is it possible interactive tutorial in small group learning?
3. Is a team-based-learning(TBL) included with an interactive seminar?
4. Is there a limitation in interactive seminar for the number of students? From my experiences, I think it may be <30 members of group, for which teacher or tutor could do a seminar at one time interactively.

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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 interest.