Reviewer's report

Title: Pediatric residents' experiences of a clinical rotation in Adolescent Medicine

Version: 1 Date: 20 September 2010

Reviewer: Stephanie Crewe

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Minor Essential Revisions
1. Although the aim is very clear and well-stated, the importance of the problem/concern is not apparent prior to the paragraph outlining the aims of this qualitative study.

   # A sentence in the 1st paragraph should provide the reader with a better sense of how this apparent “shift” in practice behavior/adolescent-provider interaction/adolescent-provider communication by trainees could, for example, potentially impact the provision of adolescent health services.

2. In the background statement, a review of previous studies should be a separate paragraph and also include the gap in the literature that your study plans to fulfill (which you have already done). Additionally, it may be helpful to further elaborate on how exploring the unique perspectives of current trainees enhance what has already been investigated.

3. For Figure 1 (“Emergent Themes”), do the arrows going from Gaining Exposure to Professional role to Self-Awareness mean that it always moves in that direction? This is how you summarized it in your concluding paragraph, however, are you suggesting that it proceeded in a unilateral direction for all study participants?

4. Quote from participant 3, page 7, should be in quotation marks

5. Spelling correction for modeled (p14)

6. Punctuation, Page 14, 1st sentence. (Patient care, in general, is known….)

7. I would suggest not ending the concluding paragraph with study limitations. Instead, I would suggest shifting your points about future studies as the concluding sentences and build your study limitations into the 1st paragraph of your conclusion.

Discretionary Revisions
1. Consider capitalizing subthemes on Figure 1.

2. It would be interesting to note if there were any differences in those 5 trainees that received their medical education in countries outside of North America. This represents 38% of the study population and it would be interesting to determine if there were any differences in any of the key themes/sub-themes, particularly past
personal experiences, attitudinal shifts and personal values.

3. I would be interested to know how these findings impacted your program and how you will use them to further enhance the experiences of trainees in your program.

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests