Locatis and co-workers present a survey upon medical students. 81 medical students divided into four groups. These four groups were given a lecture on telemedicine and the lecture were either delivered as videoconference and one way streaming, and the students were either co located or dispersed. After the lecture students had to collaborate to solve a problem (search a telemedicine website). Students then completed a multiple choice test, the test were compared between the four groups.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1) The Abstract is unclear and i suggest that it is rewritten. There is no clear Background and it seems like the things written in Background is describing the methods. There is no clear objective of the survey. How many students were included in the survey, and what was compared/measured ? A sentence or two regarding statistical methods needs to be included.

2) Background. Parts of the introduction is actually parts of the discussion i.e. first section. Page 6 second section: "VC may be acceptable when when face to face or blended learning is not possible": In my opinion this is an understatement. There are many surveys from the medical litterature that shows that VC is an good alternative to face to face learning. VC is widely used for educational purposes around the world, especially in remote areas.

Examples:


Why were there a particular interest in comparing the four groups in the survey?

Finally: There needs to be stated a clear objective/hypothesis of the survey in the end of the introduction.

3) Methods: A figure describing (a CONSORT diagram) study flow would make it easier for the reader to gain insight in the methods. There is no description of statistical methods used in the survey. Informed consent from medical students?

4) Results: they state that there were significant differences for three items on the instruction rating scale. I can't find these significant values in the tables.

4) Discussion: They clearly state that the sample size is small and is prone to selection bias, this is a limiting factor of the survey.

Finally, I miss a discussion about some central parts of VC education: Why does a VC add an important factor during medical education? What kind of information does live transmission of video add during communication? Why is it not enough with to listen to a voice during education and collaboration?

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

**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