Reviewer's report

Title: Evaluation of a longitudinal consultation skills course at a new UK medical school

Version: 2 Date: 15 June 2011

Reviewer: Barbara Buermann

Reviewer's report:

Comments:
The authors have responded to the previous comments in such a way that the focus of the paper as well as the key message and the discussion is easier to grasp and presents very interesting and important findings.
In my impression the manuscript is improved in such a way that it is recommended to publication after some minor corrections.
Overall I would recommend revising the whole manuscript once more to slim the text and shorten paragraphs where possible, while preserving the presented contents.

- Minor Essential Revisions

Title:
The title still seems to suggest a longitudinal evaluation, perhaps it could adapted to reflect the “snapshot” or cross-sectional nature of the evaluation without neglecting the longitudinal design of the curriculum

Abstract:
Background last sentence: it should be … by a cross-sectional evaluation of students perceptions.
Conclusion very last characters: in my copy the reference [0] is found here.

Analysis and Results:
I would suggest to place table 4 following the first or second paragraph in this section, before describing the student’s evaluation.

Discussion:
The discussion presents the findings more clearly, pointing out the important aspects and presenting the limitation in a balanced way.
I would still suggest going over the text once more to shorten the text without cutting actual information.
Last paragraph: In my copy the reference (0) appears twice on the last page: before and after the sentence: (0) There is clearly a need for studies comparing
longitudinal and concentrated delivery of consultation skills teaching. (0)

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

**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 interests.