Reviewer's report

Title: Geriatric assessment in undergraduate geriatric education - a structured interpretation guide improves the quantity and accuracy of the results: a cohort comparison

Version: 2 Date: 16 December 2012

Reviewer: Linda V DeCherrie

Reviewer’s report:

This is a very interesting article, that will have relevance to all undergraduate medical educators who want to enhance geriatric content and interest. This was a simple check list tool that seemed to help students who were all with community practitioners one-on-one so therefore a classroom based curriculum was not feasible. This also was hands on - patient centered which is the goal for optimal learning.

I think the background was well written/clear as was the methodology and results.

Major compulsory revisions:

1) In limitations section - mention must be made that you cannot assume this tool was the only factor in the change in behavior/grades. Potentially some other curriculum was different earlier on in medical school for the two cohorts. This should be brought up and then addressed such as saying no other geriatric content was changed between 2006-2008.

Minor Essential Revisions:

1) I am not familiar with using the term "absolve their rotation", if that is intact the correct terminology in Europe then it can stay - otherwise consider competed their rotation or phrases similar

2) As a practicing geriatrician, I was not initially familiar with COOP/WONCA - this should be defined/ or described

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 interests