Reviewer's report

Title: Team-based learning for residents: a mixed methods study

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Reviewer: Nagaswami S Vasan

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REVIEW:

The question posed or the aim of the study “(to examine the impact of TBL in a sample of psychiatrists in terms of classroom engagement, attitudes towards teamwork, learner views and experiences of TBL)” is well defined.

The method is well unambiguous with respect to the setting, recruitment of study subjects, formation of teams and module structure. The figure 1 clearly illustrates the quality of ‘application exercise’, the level and depth of the session. The authors also clearly defined the construction of survey questionnaire and analysis of semi-structured interviews.

Results: The authors used basic statistical analysis which is adequate for this study and appropriately reported them.

In the “Feedback questionnaire” the figure 2 should be corrected to Table 1.

From the semi-structured interviews the authors pulled out excellent themes for the “thematic analysis”. This is consistent with the published work of others. The four domains are well organized and appropriately quoted.

The discussion is well written that confines to the findings, and high lighted the observations with others in the literature. Further, the authors also discussed the challenges for using TBL with residents and clinicians. The authors also emphasized the fact that novice to TBL can use only certain aspects of it (i.e., RATs, application exercise) instead of complete sessions. This point is important for beginners that it is acceptable to use which aspect suits their need.

The limitations are clearly identified and also give indications to future study.

The conclusion is unbiased and limited to their results and observations.

Required revision: In the “Feedback questionnaire” the figure 2 should be corrected to Table 1.

Other comments:

# Level of interest: While TBL strategy is commonly used in undergraduate medical education this is certainly one of the earlier works to use this pedagogy at clinician level.
Hence it is meritorious and advances the field forward.
The manuscript is well written and acceptable to BMC publication.
The statistical analysis does not require to be seen by an expert statistician.
I declare that I have no competing interests to be a reviewer for this manuscript.
Based on my assessment, I accept this manuscript for publication with the 'required revision'.