Reviewer's report

Title: A prospective, blinded evaluation of a video-assisted '4-stage approach' during undergraduate student practical skills training

Version: 3 Date: 26 March 2014

Reviewer: Henning Biermann

Reviewer's report:

Minor Compulsory Revisions

1) Abstract "Results":
The 313 students were assigned into groups, not randomized. Just the groups were randomized as discussed within "methods". (e.g.: Of 313 students enrolled in the study, the results of 256 were suitable for analysis)

2) If you cannot list the dichotomous items, please clarify the nature of the nine dichotomous items by giving one or two examples and describing the focus. The items seem to be a selection of ABCDE-Trauma items and do not cover the whole ABCDE approach. For example Disability is not addressed (GCS, pupils). 5.8 and 5.9 do address the abdomen and pelvis, so bleeding into thorax, femur fractures or external bleeding are not assessed. This means a student that missed relevant parts of the ABCDE approach can still reach full points.

3) The abbreviation "ETC" is still not in the list of abbreviations, like stated.

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 am co-author of one of the cited papers. Apart from that i have no competing interests.