Reviewer's report

Title: Why medical students choose psychiatry - a 20 country cross-sectional survey

Version: 1 Date: 22 August 2013

Reviewer: Andrew Brittlebank

Reviewer's report:

This study addresses a very important question of international interest to medical educators and to healthcare systems. It is a well designed and very clearly written paper that in the main presents its conclusions with full justification.

I have one major compulsory revision: -

1) The authors must address the issue of making multiple comparisons in their data analysis. The statistical method section says that the significance level was set at 5% and the results tables record that around 30 comparisons were made between the two groups of students. Without correction, it would be expected that this will lead to the authors making type 1 errors. This study may represent a situation in which it is quite reasonable to not use a correction for multiple comparisons, but this should be made clear in the text and discussed as one of the limitations of the study.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests