Reviewer's report

Title: Differences in level of confidence in Diabetes Care between different groups of trainees: the TOPDOC Diabetes Study

Version: 1  Date: 17 April 2014

Reviewer: Peter Winocour

Reviewer's report:

Interesting paper following up on earlier survey

1. When was the survey carried out? - could things have changed re training in interim. Will need clarification and comment in discussion if based on data over 4 yrs old - what about impact of Future Shape of Training - risks and opportunities for education re DM care?

2. 2149 validated complete responses - how many were sent? . Evidence is needed to show this is representative esp given that data then broken down further into small subspec training groups . How valid are stats in small subsamples? - Authors will need to justify or accept limitations in the study which makes conclusions less robust

3. Discussions re impact of findings on Table 5 on future suggestions for training in primary care especially needs expanded . What is current and future planned training for primary care - comment on the current CMT and future curriculum would behelpful in pointing out what is covered re DM .

Minor points :

Methods : 'trainess doctors ' - at what stage - broken down for 2149 cohort
Results : 'conatct specialist' should be 'specialists '

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no conflicts of intersets