Reviewer's report

Title: Implementing statistical equating for MRCP(UK) Parts 1 and 2

Version: 2 Date: 1 July 2014

Reviewer: Syeda Ali

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. line 87 "this study will primarily consider...." should be changed to "this study primarily considers...."
2. line 109-110 a reference is needed for the statement made.
3. line 113 'a just passing candidate' is not the term that is used in defining a 'borderline candidate' as one who is 'minimally competent'. This term may be changed accordingly.
4. line 118 "Angoffing an exam" is not scientific language and needs to be rephrased
5. references are not mentioned in the para starting line 232 on wards while explaining IRT
6. line 258 I wonder why it is important to say "American Psychometricians" why not "psychometricians" only.
7. line 335 The sentence is a repetition of line 333
8. line 351 the percentage needs correction it is 11.7% in the table while 11.1& in text
9. line 473 mentions 'loess curve' while line 492 mentions 'lowess curve'. are these being used as synonymous or is there a difference as in weighted quadratic least squares regression (loess) and weighted linear least squares regression (lowess). both the figures mention 'Lowess curve'
10. there is some confusion while reading lines 661 to 663. suggest re reading.
11. in the figures a new term OS has been introduced for Non-UK examinees. I suggest that this term may also be mentioned in the text or removed from the tables & figures.

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'