Author's response to reviews

Title: Medical Students' Interpersonal Behaviors and Socio-Emotional Interaction in a Virtual Clinical Encounter

Authors:

Olivier Courteille (olivier.courteille@ki.se)
Anna Josephson (anna.josephson@ki.se)
Lars-Olof Larsson (lars-olof.larsson@vgregion.se)

Version: 2
Date: 8 January 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Hanna Järvenoja,

We appreciate, and agree upon, the concept of process-oriented analysis of the interpersonal behavior and socio-emotional interaction. However, as is stated in the Letter to the Editor, “This is an explorative and observational study and the results have for us an impact on the further design of virtual clinical encounters.” Consequently we will elaborate the study model after it now has been established and evaluated, as presented in the manuscript; we are furthermore restricted concerning retrospective alteration of the study due to the described (and performed) study-layout approved by the Ethical Committee and the donor. In the revised manuscript we have stressed the importance of process-oriented analysis and study observation within this scope is added to the manuscript.

The study served primarily in evaluating the virtual clinical encounter as a learning environment though secondarily, and as a major vision, the impact of the virtual clinical encounter as a possible tool in/before early clinical practice to facilitate communication and the socio-emotional interactions with the patients – this is not clearly stated e.g. in the abstract and the text is modified. References are added according to your recommendation.

Please find the adjustments in the revised manuscript; we have followed your recommendations to the best of our understanding. A linguistic revision had however to be postponed until later in January due to the Holiday season.

On behalf of the authors,

Sincerely yours

Lars-Olof Larsson

---

Dear Margaret Bearman,

We truly appreciate your recommendations and we have followed your suggestions to the best of our understanding. Please find the adjustments in the revised manuscript. A linguistic revision had however to be postponed until later in January due to the Holiday season.

On behalf of the authors,

Sincerely yours

Lars-Olof Larsson