Reviewer's report

Title: Predictive validity of the UK Clinical Aptitude Test in the final years of medical school: a prospective cohort study

Version: 2 Date: 6 February 2014

Reviewer: Joy Rudland

Reviewer's report:

There are no major compulsory revisions required. I enjoyed reading this well written paper and it adds to the literature on admissions.

Under discretionary revisions:
I would like to understand why Kuder-Ricardson 20 was used for calculation and not Cronbach alpha. It may be obvious, but not to me.

A more elegant way of writing the sentence starting bottom of paper 4. This is because ..... would be advisable.

I think the exclusion of performance prior to admissions, A levels, is an oversight and would have been interesting and useful.

Reference could be made to the most recently published works on admissions aptitude testing (Poole et al 2012, Comparison of UMAT scores and GPA in prediction of performance in medical school: a national study MEDICAL EDUCATION Volume: 46 Issue: 2 : 163-171). This work could be referred to as similar, although slightly lower variances values were reported.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests. I have however recommended, although under discretionary revisions, a paper I have co-authored.