Author's response to reviews

Title: Predicting Residents' Performance: A Prospective Study

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June 23, 2002
The Editor
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Please accept for review our revised manuscript titled "Predicting Residents' Performance: A Prospective Study". We have responded to the reviewers’ comments as follows:

Reviewer #1
1. We have modified the introductory statement and have deleted the word "best" as suggested by the reviewer.
2. We have provided in the Methods section data information on the range of experience of the committee members. The same committee members were on the ISC during the entire study period.
3. We have provided information in the Methods section to indicate that the chief residents were blinded to each other's global clinical ratings of residents.
4. Four scattergrams have been included with the revised manuscript. We believe that these figures address all the other concerns raised by the reviewer about the distribution of scores and the relationships between poor ISC scores and poor clinical performance.

Reviewer #2
1. We have modified the Methods section to delineate the process used to determine the final ISC score.
2. We have commented on and included 5 additional references as suggested by the reviewer.

I believe that all the reviewers' comments have been completely addressed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Philip O. Ozuah, M.D.