Reviewer's report

Title: Facilitators' Influence on Student PBL Classroom Online Information Resource Use: A Survey

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Reviewer: Michelle McLean

Reviewer's report:

While the authors have addressed many of my previous concerns, there are some issues persisting that I believe the editor needs to consider. I am making the assumption that there is an editorial team that reads and corrects the grammar, spelling mistakes, etc.?

1. The use of the word “classroom”.
This word has connotations of didactic teaching. As the facilitator is a process and not a content expert, I would prefer that this word is replaced by “PBL tutorial” or “small group session”. Classroom can be found in
- The title (very misleading)
- Abstract (para 1)
- Results (para 2) – “PBL class” and “per class” are used.
- Table 2 – first column

2. The use of the word “behaviour”.
I still have a problem with this. While the authors have addressed this for the facilitator, it still persists with regard to the students’ “activities”. Student “usage” regarding their consulting online information is more appropriate than “behaviour”.

3. The first statement (a question) under Background.
“What are the components that influence student behaviour?”
This question is so broad that it covers many aspects of medical education, which I believe is not the intention of this manuscript. Even narrowing the question to “What affects student learning in a PBL session?” covers many aspects (e.g. group dynamics, group size, duration of group, gender distribution, social background, facilitator expertise, motivation, to mention but a few) which are beyond the scope of this article. In essence, the question the authors are asking for their unique PBL tutorial arrangement is “What is the impact of the facilitator on student activities (in this case online resource usage) during a PBL session?”.

4. Under Results
Para 1
$64 + 7 = 71\%$ (not 70%, as indicated in the text of the first paragraph). There is duplication of information in this first paragraph.

Para 3 “The vastly majority…”
Please put values in the text, as appropriate, and refer to Table 1 at the end of the first sentence. In fact, the para before Table 1 should be placed earlier.

Para after Table 1: “The Chi Square…” indicate these stats on the Table.

Para 2 after Table 2: The mean student rating was 4.0-5. What does this mean?

Discussion
Para 3. The reference should be Schmidt and Moust (not just Moust).

Other
A p value of 0.000 (on one of the tables)? Should this not be 0.001?