Author’s response to reviews

Title: Using item response theory to explore the psychometric properties of extended matching questions examination in undergraduate medical education

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear BMC Medical Education,

Further to your letter we have revised our paper.

It is clear that there are fundamental differences in the philosophical approach to measurement between one of the reviewers and ourselves, and that this cannot be resolved. We have however further improved the description of the EMQ exam to make it clearer to readers. We cannot give question details as requested, as these questions remain confidential. We have included a figure which compares classical discrimination with the Rasch approach.

We have also carried out all the formatting changes requested;

To align the author list to that on the submission
To remove short title and key words
Structured the abstract and renamed the introduction to background.
Removed Figure and table placement texts, and cropped all figures.
Standardised section headings and ordered correctly.
Added competing interests, authors contributions and acknowledgements.
Reformatted references
Created Figure legends and removed them from figures.

We trust these amendments are satisfactory.