Reviewer's report

Title: Using the Ages and Stages Questionnaire to teach medical students developmental assessment: a descriptive analysis

Version: 4 Date: 27 February 2006

Reviewer: Maree O'Keefe

Reviewer's report:

General
The author has addresses concerns raised earlier and now the manuscript is significantly improved. It presents now as both interesting and informative

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
1. Results 'student confidence' please specify which statistical test was used
2. Results 'ASQ scores' please specify which method of comparison was used eg Pearson correlation coefficient
3. Results p8 line 1 need to remove full stop
4. Results 'parent perceptions' please include the actual number of parents completing the questionnaire in addition to the participation rate of 61%
5. Discussion p 12 line 3 remove semi colon
6. Discussion p 12 line20 remove full stop before [25]
7. Ref 7 needs checking re punctuation
8. Ref 10 appears incomplete

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
I would like to suggest the following minor amendments
1. Abstract line 3.....increasing medical student confidence and respect for the parents' role in childhood developmental assessment.
2. Abstract line 6 ...child development assessment tool.
3. Abstract line 11 ...increase in student confidence......
4. Background paragraph 3 specify whose attitudes (I presume the medical student)
5. Results 'ASQ scores' line 1 ....student stycar assessments and the parents' ASQ reports....
6. Results 'Key themes' line 10 ...there was increased reporting ? as compared to previous student reports in earlier cohorts of play....?

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests