Reviewer's report

Title: Factors associated with medical specialty choice: Evidence for the importance of personality factors.

Version: 2 Date: 21 October 2005

Reviewer: Mary Dozier

Reviewer's report:

General
This is an excellent paper, reporting very important findings regarding attachment style of medical students and matching in primary versus non-primary care settings. The study was conducted very well, and analyses are conducted appropriately and presented clearly.

I really like the attachment terms the authors are using (rather than the more perjorative dismissive, etc. terms.) As pointed out by the authors, this will make the findings very useful to those helping students make choices about where they are best suited to work.
This study is translational, applying basic research to clinical settings. An impressive paper!

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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)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

The more recent version of tests of mediation require that the effect of the predictor variable on the outcome is significantly less when the effects of the mediator are covaried. It seems very likely that the effects reported here would meet those criteria.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.