Reviewer's report

Title: Quality of Care Associated with Number of Cases Seen and Self-reports of Clinical Competence for Japanese Physicians-in-training in Internal Medicine

Version: 3 Date: 13 May 2006

Reviewer: shahram yazdani

Reviewer's report:

General: This article addresses some of the issues that are in fact very difficult to measure and require a widespread study. I believe that the methodology and analysis is well done and the article is of great value to the medical education community.

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

Despite my great enthusiasm for the subject and this article in particular, I do not feel that this paper is ready for publication. The language, and line of logic are such that there is no flow in this article. There are still a few grammatical errors, but more importantly the sentences do not always relate to one another. The line of logic is very hard to follow and this lack of transition between the sentences and flow in the composition has made this article not only very difficult, but also more voluminous than it needs to be. In my opinion this article needs to be restructured before it qualifies as a publication.

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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)

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What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

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

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes