Reviewer’s report

Title: The changes in curriculum courses of Medicine in Brazil encouraged by Program Incentive of the Curriculum Changes

Version: 2 Date: 17 June 2008

Reviewer: Kristi Ferguson

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
The authors describe a quantitative as well as qualitative study, yet the results are all qualitative. This is acceptable, but it needs to be noted somewhere that the quantitative results are not discussed here or include a reference to other published work that includes them.

The role of a course coordinator needs to be spelled out, as the term that most people know is course director. Is this person a faculty member? Who gets assigned that role? Are they compensated for performing it?

On page 9, the authors talk about a transformation of the role of the faculty member to one of an advisor and partner in the learning process. This needs to be described in more detail. We also need additional description of exactly what this curricular change means. For example, several of the quotes refer to a greater partnership with the community. What exactly was mandated in the reform? This might offer some insights to other countries considering reform. Likewise for the teaching-service relationship. How exactly does that work in Brazil?

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.