Reviewer's report

**Title:** Evaluation of a Communication Skills Program for First-Year Medical Students at the University of Toronto

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 8 October 2008

**Reviewer:** Salim Sohani

**Reviewer's report:**

- **Major Compulsory Revisions:** none
- **Minor Essential Revisions:**
  
  Under discussion where it describes positive rating of supervisors by TCom students (page 15 on the version that I have) please mention whether the rating was done anonymously or not.

- **Discretionary Revisions:**

  It might be interesting to include student’s feedback under discussion in terms of what difficulty they encountered, what limitations of the training methodology they thought and are important to address. This could be of interest because the pre and post self evaluation by students did not show improvement.

  Again since the self evaluation is so critical it might add value to discussion if some recommendations are made to improve the skills of self evaluation based on this study. This might be useful for those involved in further research at other medical schools as concluded by this study.

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests