Reviewer’s report

Title: The four principles: Can they be measured and do they predict ethical decision making?

Version: 1 Date: 9 March 2012

Reviewer: Matjaz Zwitter

Reviewer’s report:

An empirical study on the “weight” of different ethical principles in resolving ethical dilemmas.

The study deserves to be published, after revision.

Comments:

1. The order of sections is unusual: results, discussion and conclusions come prior to description of methodology. Background should be followed by section on methods, then results, discussion and conclusions, references, and appendices.

2. Please add all four scenarios, not just one. The precise wording of a scenario is important. As an example, blood transfusion for a child of a Jehova’s witness has at least two different situations: a child bleeding after an accident, or a child with anemia due to advanced cancer in terminal stage.

3. Numbering of sections should follow the style of the journal.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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