Reviewer's report

Title: Attitudes and behaviours of medical students regarding academic misconduct: A cross-sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 27 July 2013

Reviewer: Elisabeth Svensson

Reviewer's report:

Review of the manuscript: Attitudes and behaviours……..

The manuscript concerns academic misconduct, which is a very important and serious international problem. The manuscript is well written and the research problem is well motivated with relevant references. The questionnaire is appealing and the data sets have strong potential to provide interesting results.

However, I have some important concern regarding the handling of data and the scientific quality of the manuscript.

1. MINOR: The responses are described by percentages. You should use integer percentages only. The number of students that are used in the calculations must be given.

2. MAJOR: The tests of possible differences between groups (type of school etc) are performed by the chi-square test, which deliver p-values – only. There are 30 tests and p-values in each table- which means a serious decrease of statistical power because of multiple tests. You should reconsider the use of tests- the use of logistic regression is a more scientific approach to explain the observed differences.

3. MAJOR: The 95% confidence intervals for the differences in proportion between groups must be added.

4. TO CONSIDER: You have two main variables: attitudes and behavior and the student’s responses of these two variables of each scenario are dependent. It would be of great interest to show the relationship between attitude and behavior.

5. MINOR: The last 5 lines in the Background section should be deleted or moved to Results or Discussion.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests