Author's response to reviews

Title: Teaching seven principles for public health ethics: towards a curriculum for a short course on ethics in public health programmes

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Dear editors,

After the initial submission of the manuscript on April 3rd, I revised the paper by (only) adding an acknowledgement section.

I hope this paper is of interest for the BMC Medical Ethics journal. It describes the author's take of teaching public health ethics in several European schools of public health (and this summer also being taught at the European Centre of Disease Prevention and Control in Stockholm).

To be more precise, the paper is describing and discussing a short course of ethics that was developed to answer the need of schools of public health in the European region to include ethics in their educational programmes while at the same time not having much room in their curricula anymore.

The need among the schools was detected following a self-reflection process and a study of the member schools of ASPHER, the association of schools in public health in the European region. Two of the authors were also involved in this needs assessment and are still involved in further ethics curriculum development activities of ASPHER.

Thus, we know that this paper will be meeting a high demand. That is also why we want to publish is in an open access journal, as some schools of public health esp. in Eastern European countries are lacking access to journals.

Given this is not a classic research paper, we consider it fits best to your "debate" format.

Thank you for your consideration!

Kind regards

Peter Schröder-Bäck