Reviewer’s report

Title: Attractiveness of Employment Sectors for Physical Therapists in Ontario, Canada (1999-2007): Implication for the Long Term Care Sector

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Reviewer: Kelli Allen

Reviewer’s report:

This is an interesting manuscript that describes patterns of inflow & retention of physical therapists across different settings of care. Although these data come from just one province in Canada (which may limit generalizability somewhat), it is a valuable longitudinal data set. This paper provides a nice, simple model of examining patterns of work of therapist across settings; this is valuable for understanding trends and has potential policy and planning implications. Some specific comments for improving and the paper are as follows:

Abstract
1. Include the total sample size.
2. Briefly describe how inflow was defined, as is done for stickiness
3. The conclusion mentions LTC had highest inflow, but this was not presented in the results section. The conclusion generally should not include new data that was not already presented.

Introduction: This is a well-written set-up. However, it would benefit from additional incorporation of issues specific to physical therapy in this context. This is only briefly described in the last paragraph.

Results: It would be helpful to provide additional data about the most common types of facilities included in the “other” category.

Discussion: would benefit from a little more information about potential “remedies” to problem of apparently low attractiveness to the LTC sector. In addition to any workplace changes, are there any more general policy or training-related potential solutions?

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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