Author's response to reviews

Title: "Best" physicians' attributes: the patient's point of view

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PDF covering letter
Dear Sir,

Re: “Best physicians’ attributes: the patient’s point of view” – revision II

We were delighted to hear of the reviewers’ recommendation to accept (Dr. Robert Veatch) or almost accept (Dr. Ross Upshur) our study for publication.

The current revision explicitly exposes the random sampling of our patients (marked yellow in the text). Dr. Rudin who actually devoted time to approach the patients and explain the issue (this was done very briefly and similar to the question posed in the ‘Appendix’ with added assurance that the patient was under no obligation to participate and that filling or refusing had nothing whatsoever to do with his or her subsequent treatment) was a figure absolutely removed from the care of these patients. The patients did not know him and we are quite certain that no coercive effect or any other issue that could have biased the patient’s judgment could have been involved in the manner the questionnaires were handed. On the contrary, we believe that this ‘personal’ approach was well received and helpful in capturing almost all patients who were asked to participate and have their opinion heard.

We hope this answers the concerns raised by Dr. Upshur and look forward to the completion of our first experience of online publishing.

Sincerely yours,

Ami Schattner, MD