Reviewer's report

Title: Career Choices and what influences Nepali Medical Students and young Doctors - a Cross-sectional Study

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Reviewer: Roger Strasser

Reviewer's report:

The authors are to be congratulated for undertaking this study which addresses an issue of critical importance to Nepal. In general, the study is well conceived and executed with clear and understandable presentation of the findings in the manuscript, combining figures, table and texts. Overall, I think this article is worthy of publication in this Journal.

Having said that, I have some comments and suggestions which I hope will stimulate the authors to strengthen the paper prior to publication.

In the discussion, there is some mention of medical graduates leaving Nepal, although I did not see this option raised in the survey instrument. It seems to me that this is an important issue which ought to be acknowledged and discussed in more depth in the article. It would be helpful to provide figures on the numbers and proportion of Nepal medical graduates who leave the country after graduation.

My other comment is to suggest that the authors add to their conclusion with specific recommendations for changes in undergraduate medical education, incentives and supports for general and rural practice, and so on. On the face of it, the findings of this study are disastrous for Nepal and some forceful recommendations for specific interventions would seem to be in order. These recommendations might reference the World Health Organization global policy recommendations: Increasing access to health workers in remote and rural areas through improved retention (WHO Press. Geneva, 2010).

Level of interest: An article of importance 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.