Reviewer’s report

Title: Placement, support, and retention of health professionals: National, cross-sectional findings from medical and dental community service officers in South Africa

Version: 2 Date: 2 January 2014

Reviewer: Jane Farmer

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Minor Essential Revisions

1. I still don’t really ‘get’ how ‘race’ is handled in this article; for example - White is capitalised, as is Indian, but black is not? If this is accepted convention for this part of the world, can that be properly explained in the endnote a) please. Also endnote a) is too terse and not explanatory. The word ‘race’ is definitely problematical to me, though perhaps acceptable to others. I think the authors need to say in the endnote a) why the term 'race' is chosen and also explain White, black, Indian, etc.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests