Reviewer's report

Title: Narrowing the gap between eye care needs and service provision: optimising the flow of personnel through a multiple entry and exit training programme.

Version: 1 Date: 9 March 2009

Reviewer: Mohammed Qureshi

Reviewer's report:

A brilliant and a very well written paper that addresses major issue in Human resource development.

This multiple entry and exit model for mid level eye care personnel training has been practiced in different part of the world with a lot of success. The author has proven through a very scientific approach that this model is workable and should be practiced widely.

The paper clearly demonstrates that a slow build up of competencies over time allow the workforce not only job opportunities but to continue with higher studies and follow a career path. However this model can only be used for midlevel eye care personnel and not for ophthalmologists

Discretionary revision:

It may be worth while considering the exit at year 4 be sub-specialists in optometry, orthoptics or ophthalmic technology (a cadre for assisting in lasers, Scans,visual fields), as this would allow suspeciality that need a lot of human resource be produced keeping the need of the country in view.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests