Reviewer’s report

Title: Training the next generation of clinical researchers: Evaluation of a graduate AHP Research Internship in Rheumatology

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Reviewer: Keith Rome

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript will be of interest to those in developing a research pathway in podiatric rheumatology. The article is well written and, if published would demonstrate a system that other health care professionals may consider in future planning.

I have some discretionary points for the authors to consider:

• In the abstract ‘the aim of the study was to evaluate the effectiveness of a funded graduate research internship scheme for podiatrists.’ However, the aim quoted at the introduction states ‘to evaluate the effectiveness of this internship model to explore the outputs and career paths resulting from the programme and to explore the participants' perceptions of their experiences.’ Please can the authors clarify the differences?

• In the abstract, rather than use abbreviations please expand terms

• Please can the authors add a sentence about future directions relating to graduate research internship scheme.

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

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'