Reviewer's report

Title: Knowledge and skills required to perform Point-of-care ultrasonography in family practice – a modified Delphi study among family physicians in Slovenia

Version: 0 Date: 13 Nov 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses a testable research question(s) (brief or other article types: is there a clear objective)?

Yes - there is a clear objective

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

Yes - the approach is appropriate

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

Yes - experiments and analyses were performed appropriately

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

N/A - there are no statistics in this study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

Yes - the author's interpretation is reasonable
OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Is the current version of this work technically sound? If not, can revisions be made to make the work technically sound?

Probably - with minor revisions

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS:

In this modified Delphi study, 21 family physicians (FPs) using point-of-care ultrasonography (POCUS) was invited to respond to the questionnaires. A total of 13 FPs (62%) responded the round one questionnaire and 10 (48%) completed the round two questionnaire. The authors concluded that although POCUS is used for a wide variety of indications with a significant number of barriers, a strong consensus exists on what a FP needs to know in order to effectively perform POCUS. Overall it did provide some information for physicians performing POCUS, especially for those teaching POCUS. There were some minor points to be addressed.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

1. This study was performed in 2016. There might be some changes of physician concepts and technology. Please state it as one of the limitations.

2. In the second limitation (line 30-35, page 12), there seemed lack of a conjunction. Please check it to improve readability.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:

1. In the Abstract, please state how many FPs you invited.

2. Please list a full name when the abbreviation appears firstly (i.e. FP, line 54-55, page 2). A period seemed to be lost in line 52, page 2.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

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