Reviewer’s report

Title: Survey of Practitioners' Competency for Diagnosis of Acute Diseases Manifest on Chest X-ray

Version: 1 Date: 21 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Marco M. Sperandeo

Reviewer's report:

As regards as the methods, I really appreciated that the vignettes have also clinical data, which are mandatory for the CXR patient-focused interpreting. This is the reason why it could be useful to have access to the whole survey material, i.e. the nine vignettes. In this way, this study can be reproducible by other physicians in their own countries, in order to validate this kind of skill assessment.

Only 33 GP took active part to this study; the authors could have analysed the reason of GPs' reluctance to participate. It would have been interesting to know GPs' years of active practice, and the correlation between these data and the scores obtained.

Enrollment time is very short-only a couple of months: maybe just six months would have been enough to collect more data and to persuade more GPs to participate. If the data presented are part of a larger study, the authors should declare it, i.e. writing in the results session that these are only preliminary data.

About the Discussion session, it should be better to enclose the first eight lines (from "in our" to "alike") in the Results session.

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

No

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.

I am able to assess the statistics

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?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal