**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** Learning effects of different training models for border molding from the perspective of dental students

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 25 Sep 2016

**Reviewer:** Tathiane Lenzi

**Reviewer's report:**

This study assessed the effects of different practical training models on the comprehension and evaluation of practical training among dental students regarding border molding. Practical experience has shown a positive influence on students' knowledge, skills, and attitudes in several fields. The manuscript is interesting, however needs some adjustments to be accepted for publication.

**Abstract**

- The background of the abstract could be shortest and more direct.
- Please inform the number of students involved in the study. How did students were assigned to experimental groups?
- Please provide the p values as well as details about exploratory factor analysis.
- Revise the conclusion according to the comments about results made below.

**Methods**

- The allocation of subjects in experimental groups is not clear. Please provide more details.
- Please provide the Figure 1 with high resolution (better quality).

**Results**

- Please revise the results (Table 3) and the description of the results. I believe that the letters for "knowledge of border molding" are incorrect (To revise: plaster model B, silicone A, mannequin A). For content of practical training, the mannequin showed better result while no difference was found for plaster model and silicone strategies' training. No difference was found between approaches' training for "personal learning attitude" subscale (to add the letters in the Table).
- Could the low response rate in the plaster model group influence the results?

Conclusion

Based on the results presented in Table 3, the conclusion should be: "The replacement of plaster model by mannequin improved the knowledge and practical training of border molding.

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.

No

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

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