Reviewer's report

Title: Implementing A Pilot Leadership Course for Internal Medicine Residents: Design Considerations, Participant Impressions, and Lessons Learned

Version: 2 Date: 7 October 2014

Reviewer: Ming-Ka Chan

Reviewer's report:

General Comments

Enjoyed this paper - Major strength was actually in how you designed your curriculum and used best practices strategies - would serve as a good 'how to' develop a leadership curriculum that others can learn from. I felt that this was the most valuable contribution of your paper vs the self report from participants.

I will be more interested to see your subsequent work with this group and/or potential collaboration with other groups within or outside your centre to get a larger data set.

Minor Essential Revisions

1) Table on supplement outlining your program - hours assigned do not match your text (perhaps should say approx 3 hours) but also do not add up to the times listed for individual sessions.

Discretionary Revisions

I note that you covered team leadership at the end of the series...Did you teach them in this course or in other parts of the curriculum how to facilitate small groups - I ask because I see that you have members facilitating each time. Were they taught to do so and if not, could that have affected the success of your small group sessions. Can you also clarify if the small groups stay the same so that they can form, storm etc...

Your focus is on clinical leadership - I understand your focus in terms of patient care outcomes...what about leadership in other domains of a physician? You may want to comment that you are focusing on this aspect only and the larger context of leadership development or perhaps the translation of the KSA gained in your course to other areas outside of clinical

You have other interesting features such as using peers as 'teachers' within this program - fairly unique that you may want to comment about as well.

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
Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'