Reviewer's report

Title: Effect of Online Formative Assessment on Summative Performance in Integrated Musculoskeletal System Module

Version: 3

Date: 21 September 2014

Reviewer: Thomas Schmidt

Reviewer's report:

1. Overall this study addresses an interesting issue for medical educators. Compulsory revisions include major editorial work. Numerous problems with tense of verbs, structure of sentence, etc. Words not correctly spelled include gauge (not gauze) and weight (not weightage). Band 4 or Band IV (need to be consistent between text and tables)

2. Authors need to more precisely explain criteria for different Bands, since this approach is not used by all medical schools. Are Band 3 and Band 4 significantly different?

3. Are testing conditions (time restraints) the same for computer-based and paper-based formative formative tests?

4. Page 11, lines 209-211, Statement concerning Group C versus Group E does not agree with data presented in Table 3.

5. Page 13, line 256 Why do authors think that the positive effect of computer-based formative assessments was not consistent in all modules?

6. Do authors plan to repeat study to see if giving grade points (incentive) to formative quizzes has any effect on results?

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

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have No competing interests