Reviewer's report

Title: Interprofessional Collaboration Milestones: Advocating for Common Assessment Criteria in Graduate Medical Education

Version: 2
Date: 7 May 2015
Reviewer: Steven Yule

Reviewer's report:

No Major revisions. But I have a couple of minor essential revisions below:

This is an excellent paper, outlining the need for clear common assessment criteria. The paper is very well written and structured. The only content omission is mention of the NOTSS (Non-Technical Skills for Surgeons) tool. This is an assessment tool for directly observing individual surgeons working in a team context and seems an important addition to the paper. For references see:


NOTSS has also been used to form the basis of the interprofessional modules in SCORE (Surgical Council for Resident Education) - national curriculum in the USA: http://surgicalcore.org/modules. Other tools mentioned such as OTAS and NOTECHS are commonly used for assessing teams or subteams rather than individuals. These are still relevant but an important distinction to be made.

There was also a systematic review of behavior assessment tools published in quality and safety in healthcare in 2014 which may be important to refer to and is very relevant to the content presented in the paper. See:


Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare I have no competing interests according to the BMC criteria.
I do suggest that the authors reference a tool that I was involved in developing, but only because this paper is in my specific area of expertise and it is important omission given the prominence of NOTSS in US surgical training.