Reviewer's report

Title: Developing undergraduate education in palliative medicine from optional to mandatory: the German experience from four consecutive bi-annual surveys

Version: 2 Date: 16 April 2015

Reviewer: Eduardo Mutto

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript is a descriptive study on the development, implementation and evaluation of a palliative medicine curriculum for undergraduate medical students.

Is easy to understand, and the topic is important in terms of medical education.

I consider that the question posed by the authors are well defined; the methods are appropriated and well described; the discussion and conclusions are well balanced and adequately supported by the data; the limitations of the work are clearly stated; the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found and the writing is acceptable.

In my view, is very worth to publish because a) provides additional evidence of the results of Palliative Care education to medical students (in the frame of other few smalls studies available and lack of multicentre or large studies); b) provides information from Germany were Palliative Care education at Universities became and integrated and compulsory part of undergraduate training by legislation, c) provides empirical Palliative Care education research.

Then, I will encourage very much the publication.

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 statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'