Reviewer’s report

Title: Peer Learning in the UNSW Medicine Program

Version: 2

Date: 31 July 2015

Reviewer: Yvonne Hodgson

Reviewer’s report:

Review of Advances in Physiology manuscript: ADV-00097-2015

“Portfolio as active learning methodology for the study of the endocrine physiology system”

July 21, 2015.

To the authors:

This is an interesting article that describes an innovative program and addresses an important issue in medical education. The title of the paper is informative and appropriate. In general the paper is well written and appropriately reference. I could not find any defects in the manuscript other than a reference in the last paragraph in the “near peer learning develops leadership skills within a teamwork context” section. The last sentence in this section refers to two thirds of respondents who had not engaged in near peering teaching being in table 6. I could not find this data in table 6.

I have indicated my responses to each of the questions below. I believe that this paper is fir for publishing.

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? YES
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? YES
3. Are the data sound? YES
4. Do the figures appear to be genuine, i.e. without evidence of manipulation? YES
5. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? YES
6. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? YES
7. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? No limitations were stated.
8. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? YES
9. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? YES
10. Is the writing acceptable? YES
Thank you for asking me to review this manuscript. I enjoyed reading it.