Reviewer’s report

Title: Lifelong Learning of Chinese Rural Physicians: preliminary psychometrics and influencing factors

Version: 2
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Reviewer: Angela Fan

Reviewer’s report:

This is a cross-sectional study on 1197 rural physicians using the Jefferson Scale of Physician Lifelong Learning (JSPLL). The aim of this study was to explore influential factors on rural physicians’ lifelong learning by assessing the current status of lifelong learning in a large sample of Chinese rural physicians. They concluded that for Chinese rural physicians, the JSPLL was reliable and valid. Other findings include, for example, rural physicians with 21-30 working years have a lower score of lifelong learning than other phases of working years; career satisfaction and professional titles had a significantly positive influence on physicians’ orientation towards lifelong learning. This study reinforced the importance of continuing medical education and career satisfaction for lifelong learning and the need for medical schools and hospitals to provide reasonable strategies and necessary support for rural physicians.

This is a well written paper that gives motivations of the study, description of used methodologies, and findings of interested questions. I do not have major concerns about the paper.

This study does add to the existing body of knowledge in a meaningful and important way, most importantly by raising this issue, identifying the need for more reporting of this type of data, and suggesting the need to identify factors associate with the problem.

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 that I have no competing interests