Reviewer’s report

Title: How medical teachers use narratives in lectures: a qualitative study

Version: 1 Date: 10 Oct 2015

Reviewer: Monica Lypson

Reviewer's report:

Page 2 line 46….I would not sure "softer"

Suggestion For medical students in lectures, narratives may be particularly relevant in promoting humanistic aspects of medicine, including professional identity, and empathy.

For medical students in lectures, narratives may be particularly relevant in promoting the "softer" aspects of medicine, including professional identity, and empathy.

Page 12 line 43..use of first person..the editor should decide what is best

"I used a mixture of key questions with subsequent items depending on responses; some suggestions for prompts including reading them relevant passages of their lecture in which they used narrative; and used mainly open-ended questions (see question quide)."

There are other places in the paper where the voice is not clear…first vs third etc.

Page 18 line 10-11 I do not have a key to read these colours

Here is an example of a narrative which I have identified and parsed according to Labov's structural model (colours relate to the colours of clauses in the diagram):

The paper reads much better but continues to be long….I would leave further edits regarding length up to the editors
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.
Not relevant to this manuscript

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
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