Reviewer's report

Title: Virtual Patients to Explore and Develop Clinical Case Summary Statement Skills amongst Japanese Resident Physicians: A Mixed Methods Study

Version: 2 Date: 1 September 2015

Reviewer: Saroj Jayasinghe

Reviewer's report:

The authors tackle an important issue in relation to development of clinical reasoning in Japan. It is relevant and a challenging topic though the research may be specific for the socio-cultural environment of the country. The authors should be congratulated for planning and conducting such a prospective study.

The Objectives are clearly stated. The literature survey is adequate. However, it may be useful to know why the Japanese trainers and education system neglected teaching of CR. Is it a particular lacuna in curricula or does it have broader socio-cultural roots? A short sentence or two of what the authors think about this, or any evidence would be of interest.

The study design, data collection and analyses are well described.

The limitations are identified and described adequately.

The conclusions are appropriate.

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