Reviewer’s report

Title: Supervision and Autonomy of Ophthalmology Residents in the Outpatient Clinic in the United States: A Survey of ACGME-Accredited Programs

Version: 0 Date: 23 Nov 2016

Reviewer: Philip Custer

Reviewer’s report:

This is an interesting study that attempts to evaluate ophthalmology resident autonomy in outpatient clinic settings, by looking at survey results from program directors.

A significant amount of data is presented looking at the relationships between numbers of faculty, VA clinics, and other factors; and the degree of resident autonomy. In the Discussion or Conclusions it would be helpful to clearly summarize what, if any, effect the different variables had on autonomy, such as: "Number of faculty did (not) correlate with the score." Is it possible to further explore the influence of working in a VA facility with autonomy? Were those programs with VA's more likely to have residents working independently than others?

It is interesting that only 54% of programs with faculty seeing all patients did so to maximize revenue. In future surveys it would be interesting to determine if in those programs where only selected patients are seen by an attending, does insurance status determine which patients are examined.

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.

Unable to assess

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

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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