Author’s response to reviews

Title: Validation of the 5-item Doctor-Patient Communication Competency instrument for Medical Students (DPCC-MS) using two years of assessment data

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Dr. Ines Lopes de Sousa

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Revised version of the manuscript entitled “Validation of the 5-item Doctor-Patient Communication Competency instrument for Medical Students (DPCC-MS) using two years of assessment data” (Ref: MEED-D-16-00467R2)

Dear Dr. de Sousa,

Thank you for the opportunity to revise and resubmit the manuscript entitled “Validation of the 5-item Doctor-Patient Communication Competency instrument for Medical Students (DPCC-MS) using two years of assessment data”. We thank you and the editor for helping us improve the manuscript. Our responses to each of the editor comments are below.
1. In the Author contributions section, please use each author's initials instead of referring to them as "both authors". The sentence "All authors have read and approved the final version of this manuscript" should also be included.

Response to comment 1: We made these modifications (p. 20, lines 466-468).

2. Table A.2 (in the Appendix) is included but is not cited or presented in the Results section. Please refer to Table A.2 in the text of the manuscript.

Response to comment 2: We now cite table A.2 in the methods section (p. 8, line 185).

3. Please upload a clean version of the manuscript without tracked changes or highlighting and then remove any highlighted versions from the inventory, as these are no longer required at this stage of the editorial process.

Response to comment 3: We removed tracked changes and highlighting from this revised version and we deleted the preceding versions from the inventory.

Thank you for considering the revised manuscript for publication.

Sincerely,

Jean-Sébastien Renaud, PhD
Associate Professor
Laval University