Reviewer’s report

Title: Strengthening medical training programmes by focusing on professional transitions: a national bridging programme to prepare medical school graduates for their role as medical interns in Botswana

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Reviewer: Lúcio Lara Santos

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Strengthening medical training programmes by focusing on professional transitions: a national bridging programme to prepare medical school graduates for their role as medical interns in Botswana

The authors report the design and implementation of a national programme to prepare medical school graduates for their transition into medical internship training in Botswana's public healthcare system.

According the authors the programme was successful in providing an organized transition from medical schools across many countries (This sentence of the conclusions is not supported by any reference at least I did not find it and I think it is an important aspect to be something discussed in the chapter of the discussion) to structured internship training in Botswana: by improving graduates' sense of preparedness and their familiarity with expected roles and responsibilities; by increasing their self-awareness with regard to their limitations; and by building a sense of community and camaraderie amongst this cohort of trainees.

The work carried out real demonstrates the degree of self-appreciation of those involved about their knowledge in various domains of the practice of medicine.

It was interesting to note that the course increased the level of global knowledge.

The description of the modules (in the tables presented) are very interesting and informative.

Did the pre-boot camp give any indication of the topics to be addressed in the course?

However, it was the domains that involved emergency action that proved to be the most fragile given that there was a great deal of new knowledge, according to the postgraduate survey.

This may represent poor practical action during medical courses. What significant differences did the students from medical school abroad and locals find?
I think authors should reflect on how to harmonize knowledge when medical schools produce very different grades of students in terms of knowledge.

This aspect, when referenced in this article, can influence local schools if there is worse preparation to improve their curriculum and teaching.

How would you organize the course to address the serious knowledge gap if it were to be found? Your MIT course with more time? One semester zero before internal ship. Remember that we are all reading this article thinking about our realities and trying to use the same as a valid instrument.

I realized that here the view of the students was the preponderant and yours cannot uncover some data?

How do you intend to overcome the limitations?

The Pre-Boarding Internship Boot Camp and Bridging Programme proved to be an excellent means of covering deficits, in your work.

The authors could make a more general table, as a guide to take into account, when we intend to implement a similar course in another country.

**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?**
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Yes

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