Reviewer's report

Title: Medical School Clinical Placements - The optimal method for assessing the clinical educational environment. A graduate entry perspective.

Version: 1 Date: 09 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Alvisa Palese

Reviewer's report:

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Dear Authors

You have selected an important topic which is in the top of the agenda of educators.

The manuscript is therefore important but requires some changes, from my point of view.

In the abstract, you have reported some references that are not requested in the abstract: therefore, I suggest to remove the numbers of these references. Moreover, in the background, you should better state the research question which needs to be in line with the aims. The sample characteristics of the participants are not fully described; this is an important issue considering that readers should evaluated the external validity of the contents. Moreover, you have compared some factors or subscales of the questionnaires, by analysing the correlations but you have not performed the Explorative factor analysis which is considered as a preliminarily evaluation of the dimensions of a tool.

The thematic analysis performed and the quotes should be better explained and supported (e.g. by reporting the number of the students answering).

Finally I also suggest to check the manuscript in accordance with the journal guidelines.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
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Yes

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No

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