Reviewer’s report

Title: Students’ perception of interprofessional education in the bachelor program "Interprofessional Health Care" in Heidelberg, Germany: an exploratory case study

Version: 0 Date: 14 May 2017

Reviewer: Sharla King

Reviewer's report:

This was an interesting manuscript to review due to the nature of the program. Unfortunately, I cannot recommend it for publication in its current form. The biggest concern I have is with the methods. The qualitative methods need to be explained in more detail, it is not enough to say a qualitative approach was taken. It would be helpful to include the interview guide, as I'm concerned that the questions asked essentially led into the two first sub-level categories (challenges and benefits). With the lack of detailed methodology, its hard to trust the themes and sub-themes/sub-categories identified. Please include the number of students in each cohort overall, not just the number of students interviewed. It would be helpful to include a brief description of the program to give the reader a better sense of what the program is about. Specific feedback is below.

1. Page 3, line 12 remove 'a'

2. Page 4 - be cautious about the use of 'innovative' Line 10 mentions an innovation approach to develop the program and then line 24 innovative is used to refer to the concept of the program.

3. Page 4, line 22 add 'was' before therefore

4. Page 5 line 7 - use freely rather than 'up'

5. Page 5 line 44-51 - this sentence does not make sense

6. Page 6, line 29-34- This paragraph confuses the methods and perhaps should be moved out of the data analysis section and included earlier. I'm also skeptical that this was the qualitative approach intended.

7. There are several spots where the first quotation marks are at the bottom of the word like this ,, and not at the top

8. I think the discussion could benefit from the inclusion of more IPE literature synthesized in. The addition of relevant IPE literature may add some richness to the discussion.
9. I'm concerned about the conclusions that students recognized the benefit of interprofessional learning. Would this be surprising if students selected this program? This is where having a few more details about the program would be helpful.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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.

No

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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