Reviewer’s report

Title: Why nutrition education is inadequate in the medical curriculum: A qualitative study of students’ perspectives on barriers and strategies

Version: 0 Date: 25 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Leslie Cunningham-Sabo

Reviewer’s report:

General Comments

Very well organized and adequate description of qualitative methods. Additionally I have a few minor grammatical suggestions to improve the flow of content. Please see specific recommendations below.

Abstract

Line 58 - consider adding, '…semi-structured INDIVIDUAL interviews.

Background

Line 117 - 118 - add AND between 2 phrases

Methods

Line 148 - delete The, begin sentence with Nutrition education…

Also, consider adding, 'Nutrition education IN THE MEDICAL SCHOOL SETTING is…

Line 155 - do not need 'that', i.e. change to '…constructed and realities are…'

Line 170 - remove one from 'The next one year…'

Line 182 - 183 - how can medical students from the same university and having similar education 'will represent the broad and varied views…'? And will students in their first or second year (noted in Table 1) have comprehensive enough exposure to their 4+ year curriculum to be able to address the questions from an informed position?

Line 187 - why verbal informed consent when interviews were face-to-face, why not written consent? And how free would interviewees be to express themselves when interviewed by their instructor?
Line 209+ - reference Table 1 in the text; confirm with editor that demographics of interviewees belongs in this location of manuscript rather than results.

Results

Line 234 - suggest revising to 'The majority of students felt…'

Line 263 - remove 'for' in this sentence

Lines 270 - 275 - this statement and quote fits best within the next theme related to adequacy of nutrition education

Line 287 - this statement about the interviewees being in their senior years of medical education contradicts the data presented in Table 1 (i.e., fairly evenly split between years 1, 2 and 3).

Line 451 - 453 - meaning unclear of 'during their time in the medical school' versus lower years of medical school.' Pre-clinical versus clinical?

Discussion

Line 481 - revise to doctors' roles

Line 499 - revise so that there are no single-sentence paragraphs

Line 537 - suggest revising to 'the student suggestion…'

Line 538 - revise to '…seminars to address the barriers…'

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?
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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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