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: 02 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Fernando Vio

Reviewer’s report:

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Comments to Author

Methodology

This is a qualitative research with semi structured interviews. The justification of the instrument is important, with more references about this specific qualitative instrument.

The number of 23 participants in the semi-structured interviewa should be justified

The utilization of semi-structured interviews instead of other qualitative methods, such as focus groups, should be justified and backed with references of other qualitative research studies.

Questions should be described in detail in a Table.

Validation process of the questionnaire should be explained in detail. There is only one sentence "We pilot the semi-structured interviews on a group of 8 students to ensure clarity and understanding of the questions...."

Ethical considerations: "Participation was voluntary and verbal informed consent was obtained from all participants who agreed to participate in the study".

It is necessary a written informed consent to participate in the study and the approval of an Ethical Committee.

Results:

Are well described
Discussion:

The first paragraph "General discussion and role of doctors in nutrition care" are the same data described in results. This paragraph (lines 479-495) could be eliminated or included at the end of the results.

Barriers: it is important to consider lack of time in the undergraduate clinical students curriculum as an important barrier.

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.

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:

Acceptable

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