Reviewer’s report

Title: Thai medical students' attitudes regarding what constitutes a "good death": a multi-center study

Version: 0 Date: 28 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Mary T. White

Reviewer's report:

This is a very well designed and well-written study of an important topic for medical education. I read it with interest and found it largely sound. I was bothered a bit by some minor mechanical (writing) errors and copy-edited the manuscript (partially - attached). The section on IRB review needed to be reorganized.

My general recommendation is that you make more of the data you have in your discussion. Your demographic data is rich: the distribution of students over the 6 years of medical school, majority being Buddhist, experience with dying and caring for the dying - all of this contributes to the responses. More could be said about that.

For the general audience, some mention of the beliefs (or range of beliefs) surrounding death and dying for Buddhists would help the non-Buddhist reader.

I would also have appreciated more discussion of the findings from the survey questions. The data is good - what more can we learn from it? The desire for spiritual needs to be met is very strong (83%) - the top scorer. What does this include? What does it require from physicians? What of other findings?

The conclusion section is too brief. Please set these findings in context - who are the respondents vs the range of patients? What instruction would you recommend, and where might it go in the medical curriculum? What future research would add to understanding of what contributes to a good death for patient in Thailand, and what do physicians need to know and be able to do to make a good death possible for all Thai people.

With these kinds of additions to the discussion and conclusion, I think this paper will be interesting to many medical educators worldwide. It is is very good shape overall, but does need copy-editing.

Thanks for the opportunity to review it!

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.

Unable to assess

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
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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

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