Reviewer’s report

Title: Trust in Group Decisions: A Scoping Review

Version: 0 Date: 18 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Ylva Holzhausen

Reviewer’s report:

I thank for the opportunity to read and review the manuscript submitted and I would like to congratulate the authors on their comprehensive and conclusive literature review. In recent years, there was a rising interest in the medical education community in the concept of trust and its implications in health education. It is in my eyes a valuable approach to link the findings of the literature study on trust in the context of group decisions directly to the work of competency committees, and I would recommend to further emphasize this link. Please see more detailed comments in the following:

1) In some countries, competency committees are a crucial part of the postgraduate medical education program. However, not all readers of the journal might be familiar with the organization and responsibilities of competency committees. It would be helpful to provide in the background section more information on the committees and to also emphasize the link between their work and the research question. The discussion section (p. 19, l 38-51) provides some reasoning on the decision making process of competency committees and I would recommend to provide this information already in the background section.

2) As already mentioned, I would recommend to further emphasize the link between the work of the competency committees and the research question and findings. This could potentially enhance the practical applicability of the manuscript.

Table 3 already provides a very good connection between the research findings and the competency committees, and I would recommend strengthening this aspect throughout the whole manuscript.

3) Generally, the manuscript is a bit lengthy (especially the results section). The authors were very accurate in describing all their findings, but the reader might get lost in the sheer abundance of information. Please have a careful look at the manuscript and shorten where possible.
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?
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

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?
If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal