Reviewer’s report

Title: Does academic interest play a more important role in medical sciences than in other disciplines? A nationwide cross-sectional study in China

Version: 0 Date: 24 May 2019

Reviewer: Francisco Bonilla-Escobar

Reviewer's report:

* Authors mention three questions that remain "unclear" to the best of their knowledge. Two of them are answered along the article, but there are no comments or discussions about the question "Should students be aware of their academic interests when applying universities and disciplines? I recommend to separate that question from the two main of the article.

* Authors should acknowledge the data collecting limitations of anonymous self-reporting, such as recall bias.

* It is not necessary to give an extensive explanation about the propensity score matching (PSM) and the average treatment effect on the treated (ATT). A brief mention of key points may be enough. It could state directions to interpret results obtained from those type of analyses

* Tables do reflect the main results obtained, and are mention in the text in an appropriate fashion.

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.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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