Reviewer's report

Title: Increased average number of medical publications per interviewee from 2009 to 2018: a study of 100 interviewees to an academic gastroenterology fellowship program

Version: 1 Date: 30 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Amir Khan

Reviewer's report:

The authors should be complimented for submitting appropriate revisions. However there are some minor changes to be done as given below:

Title:

Mentioned: "A large and statistically significant increase in mean number of medical publications per interviewee from 2009 to 2018: a study of 100 interviewees to an academic gastroenterology fellowship program"

Comment: Title should avoid the phrases: 'A large and statistically significant' AND 'mean number'
These are statistical terms which are not needed in the title.

Background in the abstract:
Mentioned: Gastroenterology fellowship positions are extremely competitive.

Comment: This does not justify the objective of the study. Please rewrite.

Results
Mentioned: The statistical significance of these time trends (for 2009-2011 versus 2016-2018) across the sample of 100 interviewees was analyzed using non-parametric statistics because the number of abstracts, articles, and publications per interviewee per annum was demonstrated to have nonparametric (non-normal) distributions by direct visual inspection of histograms, of Q-Q plots, and of box plots. Shapiro-Wilk's test also showed a non-normal distribution (p<0.0001 for normal distribution, individually for abstracts, articles, or publications).

Comment: The following component need not be mentioned in results. It should be mentioned in the Statistics section of methods section.
....."was analyzed using non-parametric statistics because the number of abstracts, articles, and publications per interviewee per annum was demonstrated to have nonparametric (non-normal) distributions by direct visual inspection of histograms, of Q-Q plots, and of box plots. Shapiro-Wilk's test also showed a non-normal distribution (p<0.0001 for normal distribution, individually for
abstracts, articles, or publications)."

The abovementioned change in results section is needed at many places.

Thanks.

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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