Author’s response to reviews

Title: Evaluation of the undergraduate Family Medicine programme of Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya: Quantitative and qualitative student feedback

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Esther Fagelson
Senior Assistant Editor
BMC Medical Education

Dear Madam,

MEED-D-18-00835R2- Evaluation of the undergraduate Family Medicine programme of Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya: Quantitative and qualitative feedback

We thank both you and the reviewers for the valuable suggestions in the process of reviewing our article. We have addressed your comments point by point below. There were no new revisions suggested by the reviewers.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a revised version and we hope the revised manuscript is now acceptable for publication.

Best Regards

Dr D.P.Perera
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Editor Comments:

1. Consent to participate

-- In your “ethical approval and consent to participate” section, please confirm whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from all participants and clearly state this in your manuscript. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. If the need for consent was waived by an IRB or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this, including the name of the IRB or a reference to the relevant legislation.

This is addressed in Ethics approval and consent to participate, pages 16 – 17, lines 341 - 345

Since 2016 student feedback has been routinely collected using this questionnaire based and Round Robin technique. We decided to publish the data on feedback as part of programme evaluation. The opinion of the ethics committee was sought on publication of the feedback data and the ethics committee of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya deemed that ethics approval was not required for secondary use of non-identifiable and program evaluation data.

2. Consent for publication

-- In your “consent for publication” section, please confirm whether participants gave consent for direct quotes from their interviews to be published in this manuscript.

This is addressed under Ethics approval and consent to participate, pages 16 – 17, lines 341 – 345

3. Authors’ contributions

-- We note that two authors have the same initials [SW]. To distinguish between them in the Authors’ Contributions section please designate them as [SW]1 and [SW]2, with [SW]1 corresponding to Supun Withana, chosen because this name is furthest up the author list.

Addressed under Authors contributions, page 17, lines 356 – 358

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