Reviewer’s report

Title: Development of a brief learning environment measure for use in healthcare professions education: the Healthcare Education Micro Learning Environment Measure (HEMLEM)

Version: 0 Date: 05 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Lindsay Blake

Reviewer's report:

I found this to be an interesting project that could have wide-reaching effects. However, the manuscript was hard to follow and while I was able to grasp the meaning overall, I am not sure other readers would spend the time. My overall suggestions include:

1. combining some of the smaller headings, especially in methods and results to make the text less choppy.

2. There are some advanced statistics used that most readers will not recognize. I suggest placing more explanation about what these are and why they are used, this is done in some places, but not all.

3. Ethical considerations are included twice, remove one.

4. Perhaps include a flow chart for the paragraphs under Results - Qualitative results. The written format is hard to follow.

5. Rework the factor analysis portion - very hard to follow - maybe placing explanations of the factors before the results from them?

6. Additional discussion points, small sample size, mostly nursing.

I look forward to seeing this work published in the future
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.

No

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 recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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