Reviewer’s report

Title: Assessing the training needs of medical students in patient information gathering; a qualitative study

Version: 1 Date: 26 Jan 2020

Reviewer: John Frain

Reviewer's report:

The authors have considered and assimilated all of the reviewer comments very well and generally comprehensively. The result is a useful paper which addresses aspects of the early years student and the more experienced clinician. Most importantly however, the paper addresses the transition from simulated role plays and practice to the reality of working with real patients and the issues arising in the latter. It emphasises the joint responsibility of the learner and the teacher at all stages. Relevant barriers for both parties are identified together with areas for further research. The paper is useful in identifying how the transition from simulation to real world training and practice may be addressed by approaches in both the preclinical and clinical phases of training.

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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