Reviewer's report

Title: Which family physician should I choose? The analytic hierarchy process approach in the selection of a family physician

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Reviewer: Sonal Singh

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I have some comments on this paper.
The study is a reasonable attempt to conduct an AHP on choosing a family physician using a qualitative and then AHP approach with 96 patients on five different attributes.

Major revision

1. I think the paper has a fundamental challenge, which the authors have not overcome which makes any of their inferences invalid. Approximately 95% of judgements are invalid or inconsistent. As the authors state, that this merely reflects that choices do not reflect comparisons. This should be revised to be made more accurate. Inconsistency in AHP could be due to problems with hierarchy, contradictions in their questionnaire, and incomplete training of patients.

2. Methods : They could perhaps raise the inconsistency margin to 0.15 and see the proportion of participants who provide consistent judgements and perhaps increase the strength of their conclusions.

3. It is understandable that the focus is on identification of model and its attributes where inconsistency has no role. However since they state that physicians’ attributes were most important - a relative weighting comparison. Importantly, they need to focus on providing the reader with reasons for such high inconsistency in their study

4. They should limit the generalizable inferences that can be drawn from such an AHP.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests