Reviewer's report

Title: Sex differences in medico-legal action against doctors: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Version: 2 Date: 21 June 2015

Reviewer: Louise Nash

Reviewer's report:

Discretionary revisions.
Thank you for inviting me to review this article.
It is an excellent piece of work.
I am not a statistician, and therefore have basic understanding only of the statistical choices, but what I understand makes good sense to me.

I think the review and meta-analysis is good with the limitations the authors declare re language limitations which therefore limit studies from some countries.

There is the other declared limitation of type of specialty. My studies in this area (Nash et al) did find a difference in medico-legal matters for the differing specialties with surgery and obstetrics and gynaecology having the highest rate. The confounders of career choice for males and females is an issue that needs to be considered as stated by authors.

The other issue not considered in the article, but is certainly relevant in Australia is hours of work for male and female doctors. In Australia, on average male doctors work more hours than female doctors. My study found that even when accounting for this difference, male doctors had higher rate of medico legal matter.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I have no competing interests