Reviewer’s report

Title: Factors influencing trainee doctor emigration in a high income country: A mixed methods study

Version: 0 Date: 29 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Jessica Power

Reviewer's report:

Well done on this interesting and much needed research. The topic area very relevant with the need to explore doctors emigration in high income settings and highlight the Irish doctors experience. This article adds greatly to current knowledge in this area.

There were some small comments for this paper;

Methods

Was it looked at as to what postgraduate training the doctor was completing and whether that influenced their perception of career progression and training quality? For example issues of career progression may be more specific to one area (for example having to reapply to surgical schemes at each stage), as opposed to six year run-through schemes such as anaesthetics?

There could be a case for a hypothesis that not all training programmes would hold the same perception. This may be outside the remit of this study and if so maybe this could be an area for future investigation? Opportunity to learn from success factors of specific training programmes and how they assist retention (e.g. adequate supervision, consultation/NCHD ration, career opportunities).

You included those on a postgraduate training programme only - maybe just to give a reasoning for why NCHD that were not on a scheme were not included as they may have some interesting insights as to why they chose not to apply.

Page 10 - Just to clarify what you mean by bullying in this context? (emtional, neglect etc?)

Qualitative Methods

In your quantitative you did not include those that had left Ireland, however in the qualitative you did. This is not a problem as all can give insights but maybe just to give reasoning for this.

Page 6. Line 53 - thematic analysis completed by one or more researchers?
Limitations

Medical council of Ireland led survey - could there be reporting bias from subjects as not a fully independent study?

Grammar/Spelling

Page 9. Line 22 - Put twenty two percent in words then as numerical in next sentence. Keep consistent. I would suggest numerical once over ten.

Page 19 Line 48 - missing full stop after perceived.

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field

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

Acceptable

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