Title: Migration Intentions of Asian and African Medical Students Educated in China: A Cross Sectional Study

Reviewer: Niamh Humphries

Reviewer's report:

Institution: do the authors work at a medical school that trains international medical students? Should this be mentioned as a competing interest? Should this be mentioned in the methods section, as it might help to explain the high response rate (89%) to the survey.

Do you have any information about whether IMS in China are funded by their home governments to undertake medical education in China and whether that influences their plans to return home/migrate onwards?

The article (particularly the background and discussion sections) would benefit from a thorough proof-read in English prior to re submission, as some of the phrases used are awkwardly written. Here are some examples from p1-5:

P1L8: should it read the 'onward migration intentions' of China educated international medical students?
P2L 35: 'A total of 142 students chose to stay outside their home countries temporarily or permanently'. Does this mean that they intended to remain outside their home country once their medical training had been completed?
P2: 'the HIC going intentions' awkwardly written. Do you mean onward migration to a HIC?
P2: 'learning medicine' = studying medicine?
P2: Where is Comoros?
P3: 'and to acquire a work visa if they intend to work in China' post-graduation.
P5: about the surveys by Tianjin Medical University and Guangxi Medical University. I'm presuming they surveyed IMS alumni, but how long after completion of their studies did these surveys take place?
P8L54: 'Overall, 124 (46.62%) students were determined to return home' should this read intended?
P10L29: 'were determined' or intended?
P10L44: 'As Akl et al. [19] stated, it was important to assess the migration attitudes of medical students graduating from foreign medical schools to facilitate healthcare policy development' Please explain/expand.
P11L10: Rephrase/explain this sentence more 'Currently, the percentage of healthcare workforce from LMICs migrating abroad has reached alarming levels globally, posing detrimental effects to the already struggling healthcare systems in LMICs [24,26], despite efforts by governments to discourage medical brain drain'.
P11L24: Rephrase this sentence 'although China received the highest number of votes as the preferred
temporary destination outside the home country, the number of students who chose it as a permanent
destination was much lower'.

P12L5: Rephrase 'possibly due to their confined geographic mobility'

**Level of interest**

Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English**

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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