Reviewer’s report

Title: Preferences of physicians for public and private sector work

Version: 0 Date: 07 May 2020

Reviewer: Nathan O'Hara

Reviewer's report:

The authors surveyed over 3,400 specialist physicians in Australia to determine preferences related to working in the public and private health sectors. A discrete choice experiment was used to elicit physician preferences. The methods used in this study were incredibly robust and well-described. The research topic and findings are of relevance to healthcare policy and planning. Constructing the status quo choice data from the respondents' current job characteristics reported in the survey was particularly novel.

In the first sentence of the results, it states 4310 responses, but elsewhere in the manuscript it states 3,422. Please clarify the discrepancy.

The 22% response rate was a potential concern. However, the authors compared the characteristics of their sample to the population to alleviate any apprehension of respondent bias.

I have reviewed several DCE studies and was very impressed with the quality and clarity of this manuscript. I commend the authors on an excellent contribution to the literature.

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

An exceptional article

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

Acceptable

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