Reviewer’s report

Title: Dental school tracks related to retention of dentists in Thai government services: a cross-sectional survey

Version: 0 Date: 14 Oct 2019

Reviewer: Indrajit Hazarkia

Reviewer's report:

The paper provides an interesting insight to issues related to the retention of dental professionals. However, the paper needs to be substantially revised in line with the comments below.

General comments:
- The paper needs a more comprehensive discussion on the policy implications of the findings. Also, it will be important to compare the findings for the dental graduates with the existing literature from Thailand on the retention of other health professional graduates - the similarities and differences. The conclusion section needs to be redrafted in light of the above comments.
- The paper has grammatical errors in several places. This needs to be addressed.
- The references are not complete in some instances e.g. 4, 5, 9

Specific comments:
- Background: should provide a better description of the current dental health services in Thailand, highlighting the concerns regarding the maldistribution of the dental professionals. It should also explain if and how the results of the survey among CU graduates can be generalized to other universities and colleges in Thailand. For instance, are the six admission tracks specific to CU or generalizable.
- Data collection: the paper mentioned that "data was collected over six months through online questionnaire". Where was the questionnaire posted? How did the students get access to the questionnaire? How was sampling bias avoided? In addition, the questionnaire is referred but not included as supplementary document.
- Figure 1. is difficult to interpret.
- Discussion sections needs a more nuanced review of the relevant global and regional literature.

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:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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