Article Submission Cover letter

Dear Editor,

This is to confirm that the article entitled "Blowing the whistle: Perceptions of surgical staff and medical students in a public South African hospital" submitted to the Indian Journal of Medical Ethics is original and has been co-authored by the undersigned. All authors have participated in the work sufficiently to meet the ICMJE guidelines for authorship. All have read and approved the manuscript.

The submission is not under consideration for publication in any other journal.

We give consent to Mr Ter-Er Kusu-Orkar to act as the author for correspondence.

There are no relevant competing interests, financial or otherwise. The Institute of Medical Ethics helped sponsor this research.

We have read the terms and conditions of authorship of IJME and accept them.

Contact details and affiliation of all authors: Signatures of all authors:

Mr. Ter-Er Kusu-Orkar^a; MBCHB student, Hltkusuo@liv.ac.uk

Mr Alexander Symonds^a, MScR, MBCHB student, hlasymon@liv.ac.uk

0 1

Mr Harry C Bickerstaffe^a, MBChB student, hlhbicke@liv.ac.uk

Mrs Nikki Allorto^b; MBCHB, Mmed, FCS, Nikkiallorto@gmail.com

Millister Egge

Dr Stuart Oultram^c; Stuart.Oultram@liverpool.ac.uk

Hay Tellon

^a University of Liverpool Medical School, Cedar House, Liverpool, L69 3GE: +44 (0)151 795 4362

^b University of KwaZulu Natal, Pietermaritzburg Metropolitan Department of Surgery

^c University of Liverpool, Dept. Health Services Research, Liverpool UK, L69 3GL: +44(0)1517955332