[2939] Sadati The crisis of ethics in education; a critical view on unchangeable curriculum in medical education in Iran

Review Comments;

Summary: This is a good attempt at exploring the ethics in medical education, but there are serious issues in language and conduct of the study to allow its publication in IJME.

Language: The paper needs to be seen by a native language expert in English because the quality of writing is poor and is jarring at times. The introduction can be made more crisper and better to reflect the need for the research.

Methodology:

Medical education has several stakeholders. These involve the students, teaching faculty and the administration of the college. A study attempting to discuss the ethics of medical education cannot ignore two important stakeholders as this will not show the reader the complete picture. Hence this study does not answer the question it set out to address. Because it has not looked at two other major stakeholders it has lost the opportunity for data triangulation.

In the methods section of any paper the details of the study need to be given. We have no idea of how many FGDs were conducted. There is no details of the participants per FGD. Ideally we do more FGDs till no new theme emerges. There is no FGD guide provided nor is the average duration of FGD given. We do not have a idea as to where and in what language was the FGD conducted. If conducted in the local language, was the FGD transcribed. If conducted in English, is there anything to suggest that the participants are comfortable and fluent in English.

Results:

With poor methodology, the results of the study cannot be relied upon and hence it is difficult to understand the results. The presentation of results is good.

Discussion:

The discussion leaves a lot to be desired. If there are themes that have been extracted, it needs to discuss as to why these are dominant themes and how these themes dominate or later medical education. If these themes need to ameliorated to improved what steps might be taken. Ethics is in relation to culture of the society and especially with education, how does the nature of the society affect the ethics in education needs to be discussed. There are responses about money and poor respect. How does the culture of the society fare with these two aspects? If there is a dominant social aspect of not respecting younger persons, it will impact all spheres and medical education cannot be spared and hence this has to be discussed with the societal milieu in mind.