*IJME* Manuscript evaluation guidelines:

Title: **Integrating ethics into the Physiology curriculum: a scale-up study across Medical colleges in Karnataka, South India**  
  
Importance of the paper  
  
           Does it address issues relevant to the fields of medical ethics and bioethics in India and the developing countries?

Teaching ethics in medical education is being considered as a felt need by the medical educators as well as the medical students in recent years. While different strategies has been adopted to teach medical ethics for medical students, the attempt of integrating ethics into an existing curriculum seems to be advantageous over others as it doesn’t require additional teaching hours.   
Is it topical?  
  
           Is the issue discussed from another country's/culture perspective? – no   
  
           Will it influence practice or policy? – yes.   
           Is it too specialized for the journal? – no   
  
  
Originality  
  
           Is the information /comment new?

The study is looking at the feasibility of scaling up of integrating ethics into Physiology curriculum in other medical colleges, which is new. Systematically integrating ethics into already existing curriculum is novel. This concept has been studied by the author in a single college before scaling up this study.

Conclusions  
           Is the interpretation warranted, unwarranted, well developed?

The interpretations on feasibility, relevance, merits and demerits of integrating ethics based on this study seems to be superficial for the following reasons :

1. The interpretation is based on the feedback questionnaire, which has the potential of being influenced by Hawthorne Effect.
2. The author has attempted in presenting the qualitative data in frequency table. Presenting qualitative data in a frequency table tends to sabotage the meaning of such data. Qualitative data is expressed not in terms of numbers, rather by means of a complete description of the experiences. Qualitative analysis is done for the purpose of discovering underlying meaning and patterns of relationships. The way the qualitative data is handled in this study, doesn’t serve the purpose.
3. The study also doesn’t state the implication for comparing the results based on college and gender. It looks like the comparison is done for the sake of doing a comparison.

           Does the article contain loose generalisations?

Yes… The study is looking at the feasibility of scaling up only among those colleges which have volunteered to be a part of this project. Therefore there is a possibility of selection bias in choosing the colleges. Hence, the findings based on this study may hold true only for these colleges which have volunteered.  
  
           Are there any important omissions?

The author states that government medical colleges were not included for certain constraints and challenges in Implementation. Mentioning on what are these challenges is very essential to address the objectives of the study.  
   
  
Other comments

Recommendation  
  
Accept as is  
  
Accept with modifications (specify)  
  
- style  
  
- substance – the article may be accepted provided the issues mentioned above are addressed by the authors.  
  
  
Separate comments for the author:

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Note: Please maintain confidentiality regarding the submissions you review.

Please let us know whether you would like your name to be published along with the article or

would prefer it not be disclosed.