

Reviewer's report

Title: Loss of International Medical Experiences: Knowledge, Skills, and Attitudes at Risk

Version: 2 **Date:** 6 June 2007

Reviewer: Chandy John

Reviewer's report:

General

This is a nicely written commentary that summarizes some of the important issues surrounding international medical experiences, and highlights the current difficulties that threaten to limit these experiences. It is a timely and personal call to arms for the medical community not to allow these very important experiences to be ended because of bureaucratic constraints or short-sighted financial considerations. I hope this article will bring this issue to greater prominence, as it is becoming more and more difficult to get support for international medical experiences for residents.

Major compulsory revisions: none

Minor essential revisions: commentary on the dearth of research on the effects of international medical rotations. One of the biggest problems in convincing organizations and administrators about the value of international medical experiences is that (as the authors show in their commentary), there is very little hard data on how these experiences affect or alter knowledge, attitudes, practice, and long-term careers.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.