

Author Response

Abstract:

Sir

I am most grateful for Niall Conroy's comments which are a very helpful opportunity to create an ongoing and constructive dialogue between the graduate entry medicine (GEM) programmes in the Ireland, the UK and Australia. It is important also to initiate a research collaboration to collect relevant high quality data both locally and internationally. GAMSAT is one of several selection tests to GEM programmes and originates in Australia and is used by the GEM programmes in Ireland and also by several GEM programmes in the UK e.g. Swansea in Wales. For non-graduate entry, Irish Medical Schools use HPAT (Health Professions Admission Test-Ireland). There is also a UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT) used in the UK in some GEM programmes, eg at Warwick. Immediately, there are two important research questions; What is the best selection tool for medical students and is a different tool required for GEM? Ultimately, the best tool should ensure the best doctors on qualification. Further research questions we need to consider are; Does GEM lead to better doctors and what is the role of the selection tool in this process?

I would be pleased to co-ordinate such an international collaboration.

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Comments: