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23 November 2016

The Editor-in-Chier

South African Journal of Higher Education

P. O. Box 3003

Matieland, 7602

Republic of South Africa

Dear Editor-in-Chier

**Submission of manuscript for publication**

I would like to submit a research manuscript entitled: “Does Team-based learning (TBL) develop essential generic skills in pharmacy students?”. I, Mariet J. Eksteen, is the author and will be responsible for correspondence.

I am not aware of any conflict of interest regarding this manuscript or research tools used in this study. This article is an original work and has not been previously published, nor is it before another journal for consideration.

I investigated whether Team-based learning (TBL) in a pharmacy practice course in the undergraduate pharmacy curriculum at a South African university allow the development of essential generic skills such as team work, problem-solving, interpersonal, time management, communication and adaptability skills. This study was approved by two Ethics Committees prior to commencement of the data collection. The significance of the paper is that no other research article has been published on this topic, to my knowledge. This study found that students did developed essential generic skills, as required for pharmacists on NQF level 8, commonly referred to as graduate attributes or employability skills. The implication of these results for Higher Education in South Africa is that active learning strategies should be included in health professions education as current passive, traditional lecture methods do not foster the development of graduate attributes or employability skills.

I have chosen to submit the paper as a Research Paper to your Journal because it is aimed at improving pharmacy teaching and learning and provide useful information for a national and international audience.

I hope that you will find these findings and their implications for higher education as interesting as we do, and that you will be prepared to send the paper out for review. We look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely

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