Appendix

This appendix was part of the submitted manuscript and has been peer reviewed. It is posted as supplied by the authors.

Supplementary Table 1: Comparison of genders in the distribution of responses to the different theme group questions: time since graduation

	Females		Males		Males vs Females		Change over time: Males vs Females	
	N[1]	Mean (SD) [2]	N[1]	Mean (SD) [2]	OR[3] (95% CI)	P-value	OR[4] (95% CI)	P-value
1-4 years								
Basic skills	234	4.20 (0.69)	161	4.14 (0.69)	0.77 (0.37 to 1.58)	0.48		
Consultation	272	4.01 (0.76)	189	3.89 (0.86)	1.48 (0.77 to 2.83)	0.24		
Personal/professional	350	3.74 (0.88)	242	3.74 (0.94)	0.81 (0.40 to 1.63)	0.55		
Patient-centred	468	4.01 (0.80)	324	4.04 (0.91)	0.85 (0.45 to 1.62)	0.62		
Clinical care	156	4.12 (0.75)	108	4.25 (0.87)	0.58 (0.28 to 1.17)	0.13		
System related	234	3.70 (0.94)	161	3.92 (0.91)	1.18 (0.55 to 2.53)	0.67		
5-10 years								
Basic skills	215	4.19 (0.72)	161	4.37 (0.73)	2.07 (0.74 to 5.80)	0.17	2.69 (0.76 to 9.46)	0.12
Consultation	252	3.80 (0.72)	189	3.86 (0.72)	2.09 (0.88 to 4.92)	0.09	1.41 (0.48 to 4.14)	0.53
Personal/professional	323	3.72 (0.86)	242	3.57 (0.96)	1.19 (0.48 to 2.97)	0.71	1.47 (0.46 to 4.64)	0.51
Patient-centred	431	3.94 (0.78)	324	4.06 (0.75)	2.66 (1.04 to 6.76)	0.04	3.13 (1.01 to 9.71)	0.048
Clinical care	143	3.96 (0.72)	108	4.10 (0.73)	1.99 (0.72 to 5.51)	0.18	3.46 (1.00 to 11.9)	0.05
System related	216	3.73 (0.86)	161	3.77 (0.88)	2.79 (0.94 to 8.23)	0.06	2.36 (0.63 to 8.83)	0.20

[1] Number of responses: the 44 questions were grouped into broad skills themes (see Table 3), and each question was counted as a separate item for each graduate respondent.

[2] The mean (standard deviation) of the responses in each time/gender/theme group was calculated for illustrative purposes only. As the Likert scale responses are inherently rank-ordered in nature (1 to 5; and not interval), a rank-ordered analysis was conducted for formal comparison.

[3] The distribution of the responses in each time/theme group in males was compared to the responses to the same questions in women: odds ratios (OR; 95% confidence intervals; P-values) were estimated using random effects ordered logistic regression corrected for repeated measures.

[4] A time-interaction was included in the analysis to determine whether change in the responses in the different theme groups in those graduating 5-10 years previously compared to more recent graduates was similar in males and females.