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Letter

Measuring participation in UK medical schools

Authors' reply

EDITOR—In a 600 word short report it was not possible to provide a detailed analysis of medical school admissions data. Such analyses are provided in the articles referenced in the report.

Our purpose was to share a tool that we developed to analyse admissions by ethnic group, sex, and social class by using publicly available data and offering some illustrative worked examples. The standardised admission ratio could of course be used alongside other measures (such as the biomedical admissions test (BMAT), A level performance, school deprivation index, etc) to test systematically the speculative hypotheses which the above authors have raised, and thereby throw light rather than heat on the widening debate on participation.

This work began as a medical student's project—perhaps another student might like to pick up the challenge?

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