

**29 August 2016**

**Proposed Grade: A**

**Proposed award: Distinction**

Martin Čadek's empirical study has quantitatively examined whether the body size of healthcare practitioners influence patient care. Specifically whether hypothetical patients viewing a consultation would retain more or less medical advice when a consultation is delivered by a normal weight or obese healthcare professional and whether this might influence adherence to this medical advice. He has pulled together a strong literature review that introduces, describes and critiques previous literature in the area and theoretically underpins his thesis and research question. The methods he has used are sound and it is clear that he has invested a lot of time and effort into developing the stimuli, recruiting participants and analysing the data. The analysis is appropriate and extensive which is impressive. Martin has also developed a detailed discussion in light of the findings with appreciation of the limitations of the research conducted. It is understood that Martin will continue to recruit participants for this study and depending on the findings, consider publication of the findings in a peer reviewed journal which I would certainly support given the novelty and potential impact of the findings.

Overall, I commend Martin on the work carried out as part of this thesis and the standard of the written thesis. Martin's thesis examines a novel research question that attempts to answer whether the body size of healthcare practitioners influence patient care. This research is clearly warranted given the prevalence of overweight and obesity across the world and the high percentages of healthcare practitioners who are overweight and obese. In sum, I propose an A grade with a distinction based on a strong defence of the study

Yours Sincerely,



Dr. Stuart Flint

Senior Lecturer and Research Fellow

