BMJ - Decision on Manuscript ID BMJ.2018.046805 **Body:** 30-Sep-2018

Dear Prof. Myers

Manuscript ID BMJ.2018.046805 entitled "Excising the "Surgeon Ego": Progress Made and Paths Forward for Enhancing the Culture of Surgery"

Thank you for letting us consider your resubmitted manuscript, which we discussed at our editorial meeting on 20 Sept. We are pleased to make a provisional offer of publication if you are able to revise it to address the points made by the editors below.

- 1. The manuscript currently feels a bit more like a situational update than a strong argument. While this balance is on the whole OK, we do feel that you need to include more on the role of systems and on setting actions for improvement.
- 2. Related to the above point, one editor asked: Whose job is it to hold people accountable for their behaviour? The regulatory body (e.g. GMC in the UK)? the trust, the deanery if trainees are involved?
- 3. In our previous decision letter, we raised concerns that this may not apply to all surgical sub-specialties. Your response was that this may be the case, but there's insufficient data to say. We didn't see that point made in your piece and would like to see brief mention of the point to address any concern among readers wondering whether it's fair to paint all of surgery with the same brush.

We hope that you will be able to revise the paper and send it back to us within one month. When you resubmit, could you kindly ensure that you provide:

- (a) A covering letter outlining how you have responded, or not responded and why, to both the referees comments and those of the editors.
- (b) A word count (excluding the references and words in boxes and tables). You should aim to keep this count below or very close to 2000 words.
- (c) Please check that all the information required in the manuscript (see note below) is included in the revised manuscript.

We hope that you will be able to revise the paper and send it back to us within one month.** All accepted Analysis articles are published on thebmj.com, the canonical version of the journal. Please note that only a proportion of accepted Analysis articles will also be published in print. **

Please note that the BMJ might choose to shorten content or replace or re-size images for the print issue.

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I hope you will find the comments useful.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely

Peter Doshi pdoshi@bmj.com

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN REVISION

Please would you also check that you have provided the following information

- * Competing interest statement (in the style explained at http://www.bmj.com/about-bmj/resources-authors/forms-policies-and-checklists/de claration-competing-interests)
- * Contributorship statement + guarantor (see

http://resources.bmj.com/bmj/authors/article-submission/authorship-contributorship)

- * Copyright statement/ licence for publication (see http://www.bmj.com/about-bmj/resources-authors/forms-policies-and-checklists/copyright-open-access-and-permission-reuse)
- * Signed patient consent form(s), if the article gives enough personal information about any patient(s): (see http://resources.bmj.com/bmj/authors/editorial-policies/copy_of_patient-confidentia lity)

Date Sent: 30-Sep-2018