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Jonathan Bartletti, Fawz Kazzazi, Kendrick To

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

LETTER TO THE EDITOR - Response to: Inspiring surgeons of the future: A school outreach event and possible solution to the imminent recruitment crisis

Authors: Jonathan Bartletti¹, Fawz Kazzazi¹, Kendrick To¹

Affiliations: 1. University of Cambridge, School of Clinical Medicine, Cambridge, UK

Corresponding Author: Jonathan Bartlett, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, UK, CB2

1RH; jb871@cam.ac.uk; +447712856049.

Highlights:

- Targeting Sixth Form students is an inappropriate solution to the imminent recruitment crisis given the eight-year delay before benefits would be seen.

- There is limited utility to delivering a national course for a non-significant increase in people who are "interested" in surgery.

 Active targeting of female students and implementation of longer term surgeon-led practical exposure in medical schools are more appropriate means of combating declining interest in surgery.

Keywords:

- Recruitment
- Women in surgery
- Mentorship

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