### Supplementary file

### Search strategies

| Database | Query |
|----------|-------|
| PubMed   | "Medical students"[All Fields] AND ("Career choices"[All Fields] OR "Career aspirations"[All Fields] OR "Career intentions"[All Fields] OR "Career preferences"[All Fields] OR "Specialty intentions"[All Fields] OR "Specialty choices"[All Fields] OR "Medical specialty"[All Fields]) AND ("africa"[MeSH Terms] OR "africa"[All Fields] OR "africas"[All Fields]) |
| Embase   | 1. ‘Medical students’: ti,ab<br>2. ‘Career choice*:ti,ab’ OR ‘Career intention*:ti,ab’ OR ‘Career preference*:ti,ab’ OR ‘Specialty intention*:ti,ab’ OR ‘Specialty choice*:ti,ab’ OR ‘Medical specialty*:ti,ab’<br>3. #1 AND #2<br>4. ‘Africa: ti,ab’ OR ‘sub-sahara* Africa/exp:ti,ab’<br>5. #3 AND #4<br>6. [2000-2021]/py<br>7. #5 AND #6 |
| Google Scholar | Keywords: Medical students AND Career choices OR Career intentions OR Career preferences OR Specialty intentions OR Specialty choices OR Medical specialty.<br>Custom range: 2000-2021<br>Page: 1-50, 20 results per page |