Reviewer’s report

Title: Revisiting the J shaped curve, exploring the association between cardiovascular risk factors and concurrent depressive symptoms in patients with cardiometabolic disease: Findings from a large cross-sectional study.

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Reviewer: Pim Cuijpers

Reviewer’s report:

This is a large cross-sectional population study examining the association between cardiovascular risk factors and concurrent depressive symptoms in patients with cardiometabolic disease. Despite the size of the study, I have several problems with it.

The introduction is unclear and does not lead to a clear research question. The authors say in the first paragraph that depression is an important problem, and then spend the rest of the introduction to describing blood pressure, BMI, etc. But there is a large literature on the association between these problems and depression (see my later comment). The authors should have described this literature and then what this study could add to the knowledge from this earlier research. But they just say that they examine the association between these problems and depression.

References have no year and are incomplete, so I cannot verify them.

This study has several more important limitations than the authors mention. No diagnosis of depression was available (only self-report), this was a cross-sectional study making causal assumptions impossible, etc.

In the discussion the authors say that there is little research in the general population on the relationship between cardiovascular risk factors and depression. They have not looked properly in the literature. There is a lot of research on the association between depression on the one hand and obesity, BMI, exercise, smoking and smoking cessation on the other. The authors should have done their homework better.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests