Reviewer's report

Title: Incident somatic comorbidity after psychosis: results from a retrospective cohort study based on Flemish general practice data

Version: 1 Date: 29 July 2011

Reviewer: Dirk Devroey

Reviewer's report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions

Statistical analysis of the methods section: “Patients with the particular disease before the psychosis date or matching date were excluded”: This exclusion criterium might bias the results: these patients might be more vulnerable for the suspected diseases.

Paragraph four of the result section: How do the author interpret the fact that patient using atypical antipsychotic medication probably received this treatment for a longer time then those treated with more recent antipsychotic drugs; and what about the patients who switched from atypical antipsychotic drugs to newer ones?

Why did the authors not put (the evolution of) body weight into relationship with the occurrence of diabetes and the use of antipsychotic drugs?

- Minor Essential Revisions

In the first sentence of the result section of the abstract: “With regard to diabetes, by including the type of antipsychotic medication it is clear the significant overall effect was largely due to the use of atypical medication” should be “clear THAT the”.

In the second sentence of the result section of the abstract: “No significant higher risk was seen for cancer, joint conditions, irritable bowel syndrome, general infections, other metabolic conditions, hearing/vision problems, anaemia, cardiovascular disease or diabetes, in case no atypical antipsychotic medication was used”. It is not clear whether “in case no atypical antipsychotic medication was used” relates to all diseases or diabetes only?

First sentence of the third paragraph of the introduction: I propose “to study THE incidence”

Last sentence of the third paragraph of the introduction: STD is mentioned for the first time and should be: “sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)”

- Discretionary Revisions

Third paragraph of the methods section: To what extent does these diagnosis overlap with the prescriptions for antipsychotic drugs?

Table 3 result section: results for STD are missing?
Last paragraph of the discussion: “When necessary, shared care with other specialists such as psychiatrists, diabetologists, specialist nurses or other specialists should be established.” Which arguments do the authors have to conclude this?

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**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